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May 436

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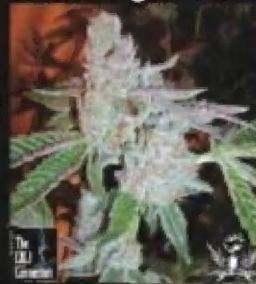
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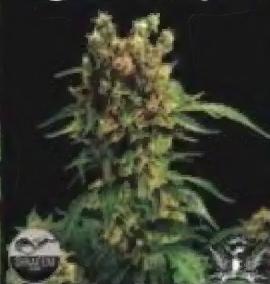
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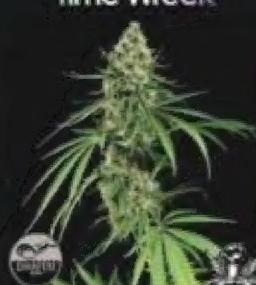
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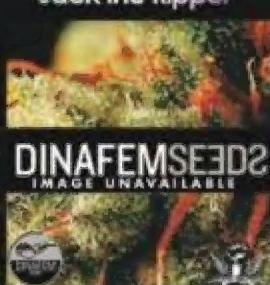
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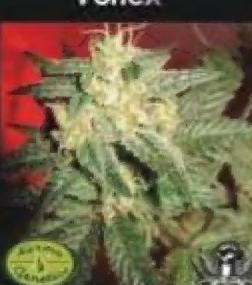
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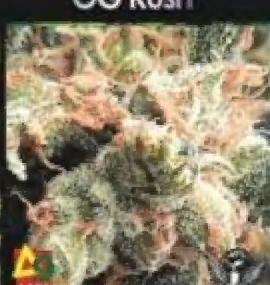
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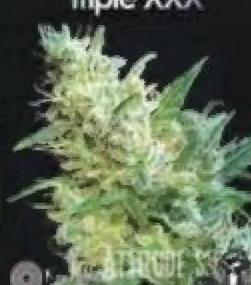
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Cannasatura



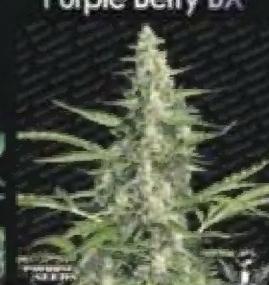
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*"It's not the glass; it's how you work it...
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the more you like it and the better you get."*

—The ROOR of the Crowd, Page 56

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47 Earth's Strongest Strains

HIGH TIMES tested more than 300 different strains to find the highest THC and the best genetics. *By Nico Escondido*

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In Germany, the world's premier glass smokeware company manufactures the "Mercedes of Bongs." *By Dan Skye*

62 Breaking Down the Medicinal Value of Sativas

A master grower examines their healing properties and different effects of highly prized *sativas*. *By Greg Green*

72 Requiem for an Occupation

Last fall, Occupy Wall Street dominated the media. How did the movement get its start and gain momentum? *By Chris Simunek*

80 How to Build a Cloner

Sure-fire secrets for creating healthy rooted cuttings that will grow into huge harvests of pot every time. *By Stinkbud*

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The executive director of Veterans for Medical Marijuana Access discusses cannabis as medicine for vets. *By Bobby Black*



Painting By: Carlito Guerrero
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Strength in Science

AS IF I hadn't already been raving enough about this issue, my fellow editors allowed me this opportunity to rant even more about the merits of our new cannabis scoring system, which led directly to the cover theme and main feature of our May mag, "The Strongest Strains on Earth."

Let's start with a quick explanation of what the heck I'm talking about. Early in 2011, recognizing the need for a more transparent and legit competition for judging medicine at our HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cups, we decided to design, build and implement an entirely new system for scoring cannabis

entries. In April of last year we launched our alpha-model of the new system at the Denver Medical Cannabis Cup—and with great success. After three more Cups in San Francisco, Michigan and finally Amsterdam we concluded that this system not only works more efficiently than ever imagined, but also that it's simply EPIC.

The first of its kind, our system—known simply as "The Scorebook" (working title)—incorporates a two-sided score sheet: a qualitative side, scored by the judges, which accounts for 70 percent of the total score, and a quantitative side that relies on lab results from gas and liquid chromatography testing, which accounts for the

other 30 percent and is scored by, well, me. So what's the point?

The system is extremely accurate and produces a comprehensive and useful database with stats on every entry from each Cup we hold. That includes the lab results, which now make it easy—and straight-up scientific—to say which particular strains are the strongest on the planet. Let that sink in for a minute, because this is truly unprecedented. And, of course, who else but HIGH TIMES could have brought this to you?

If you fancy yourself a connoisseur of fine cannabis, this is the must-read issue of 2012. Perhaps I'm a bit proud—I concede that point—but if you're not downright impressed, then I'll just go back to growing and chuck this journalism gig.

This issue also features detailed how-to advice on home cloning as well as—wouldn't you know it?—more strain info, this time from ganja grow guru Greg Green, who examines the medicinal values of *sativas*. And on top of all the pot, pot, pot, we also have pot news, pot interviews and pot-related reviews, oh my! So dig in, amigos, because, as always, we're packing a real pot punch in this glitzy spring issue. Enjoy the warm weather on the horizon, and get those baby plants started!

Stay well,

Nico Escondido
CULTIVATION EDITOR



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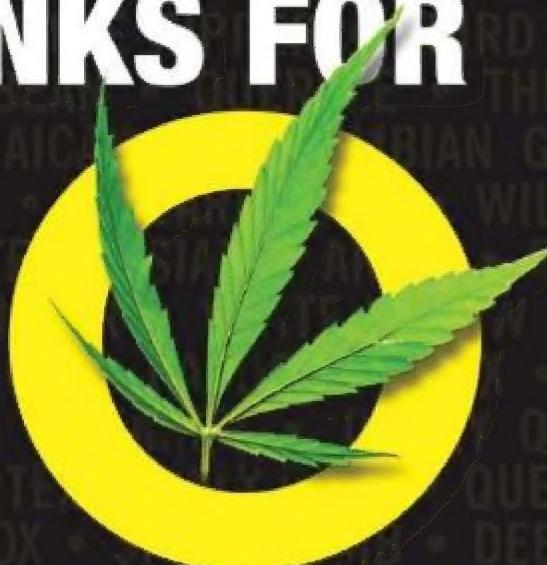


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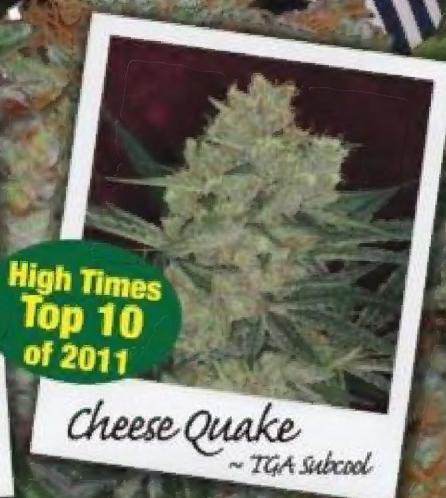
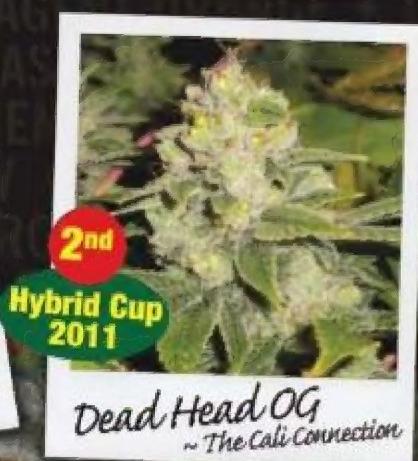
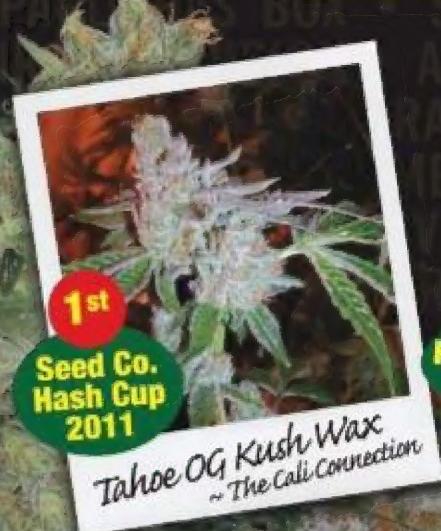
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Frank Praise

The article by Mel Frank on harvesting reminds me why I buy HIGH TIMES. Great article—it answered a bunch of questions that I had, as well as a couple more that I didn't even know to ask. Good timing, too, as my subscription arrived right in time for my harvest. Great stuff! Keep it up! —*Hazema*

Subscriber Salute!

Just for the record: I'm proud to be a subscriber to such an American way of reading. Many thanks to you! —*Capt. G.D.S., US Army (ret.)*

We appreciate the praise—especially being hailed as an “American way of reading” by a former serviceman. A thirst for basic rights and constitutional freedoms is wholly American.

Photo Finish

I'm a long-time reader and gardener. I lost last year's crop to thieves, but this year was a success! I wanted to thank you for all the information I've learned from reading your magazine. With hands-on experience—and a little help from FoxFarm—I was able to harvest more than 10 pounds of swollen nugs, a mix of auto-flowering Road Runner #2, Skunk and AK-47. Thanks for all your help, and please keep an eye out for my Pix of the Crop, which I'll be sending to you soon! —*Long Island EZRYDER*

Don't Mess With Texas!

In October, I was arrested at a Border Patrol checkpoint in Texas. This one is located at mile marker 102.4, eastbound on Interstate 10. Every car, truck, bus, motorcycle and RV is stopped for pot-sniffing dogs to check out. They're looking for big fish, but they don't throw the little ones back. I'm 62 and had less than two ounces, but a fellow rider had over six grams. He was arrested, handcuffed and locked up for 36 hours before being bonded out. So stay out of Texas! —*L.P.*

Going Retro

I am 58 (thus a baby boomer that experienced the '60s and '70s.) I have a suggestion to you from that time period. We young radicals knew then that pot would not be legalized so the approach was to push the thought of “de-criminalize” pot onto the elected officials and the public. How that would've worked is that the officials would tell the police on patrol not to waste time on simple possession contacts. Maybe if someone



I'm a long-time reader and gardener. I lost last year's crop to thieves, but this year was a success!

who is trying to change the law(s) has too much opposition they could use the term “decriminalize” to help their cause. It's kinda like Civil Union vs. Marriage thinking. —*D.B.*

Pot & the Prez

I see there is a strain called Obama OG. Is that the strain that promises special things but doesn't deliver? —*Montara Mike*

Maybe the high doesn't hit you until the second term?

Love of the Outdoors

I loved the article about the great-grandmother checking out her first pot plant (“Family Values,” Feb. '12). It's so cool to have pot plants around. If I ever grow again, it would be in a sunny climate with well-prepared soil. —*M.N.*

Majoring in Marijuana

I'm a high school student in Ontario and I was just wondering what kind of education or special courses I would need in order to get into the medicinal marijuana field? Also, are there any colleges or universities I should be specifically looking at? —*A Student*

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High Times May 2012

For smart, dedicated individuals, opportunities in the field are wide open because the marijuana industry is still in its infancy. College courses will serve you well. Botany makes sense for growers, while business administration would be a good choice for dispensary owners or any kind of cannabis-related business. Many dispensaries depend on a variety of people from the alternative medicine field, as well as mainstream medical professionals like doctors. As for marijuana-specific coursework, there's always Oaksterdam University in Oakland, CA.

Dose of Insanity

I cannot believe the insane drug laws that are forced upon us these days. The War on Drugs is joke; it has never worked and it never will. The scourge of meth is worse than ever; people overdose and die on prescription drugs by the tens of thousands each year; we can even dose our own children with all sorts of behavior-altering drugs—but we'll be arrested for smoking and growing marijuana. How insane! Cigarettes and alcohol both kill; we know this for a fact, and yet they're both still legal. But marijuana is a medicine with no lethal dose; it has many proven benefits and helps provide people with a better quality of life. It is time to join together and fight against these insane anti-marijuana laws. —*Jim*

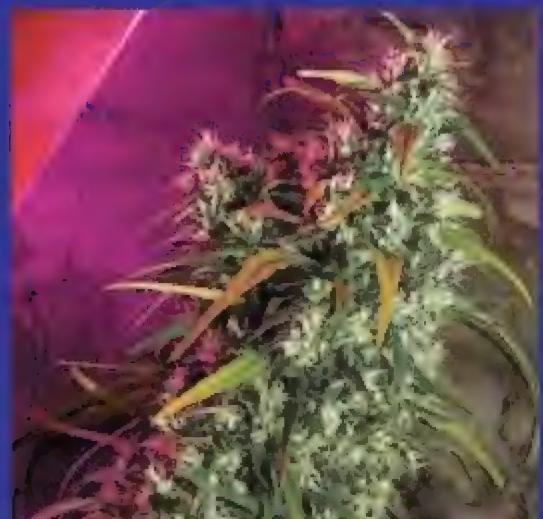
Scary Sacred Sites

About your article on the “Top 10 Sacred Sites” (Nov. '11): Some places that you mentioned sound pretty freaky and scary, such as the Superstition Mountains in Arizona: There's a lot of abductions and military activity out there. The Serpent Mound in Ohio is inclined to the paranormal and supernatural. Also, I couldn't imagine being at Niagara Falls after ingesting a spiritual sacrament—but I'd sure like to try! —*J. Smith*

Sacred sites gain their reputations because of the transformative energy that human beings encounter visiting these places. If you plan to take a trip, it's important to be in the most positive state of mind possible.

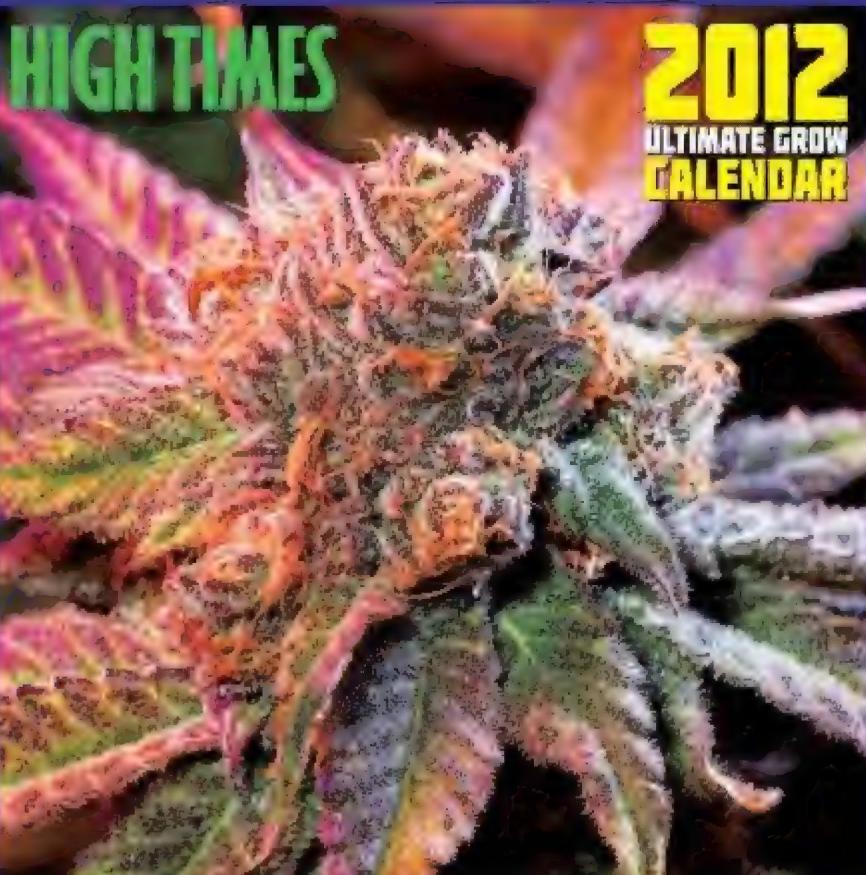
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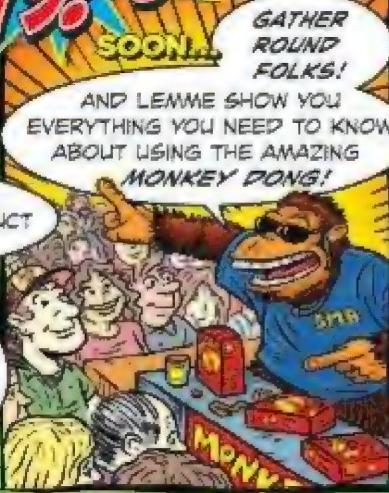
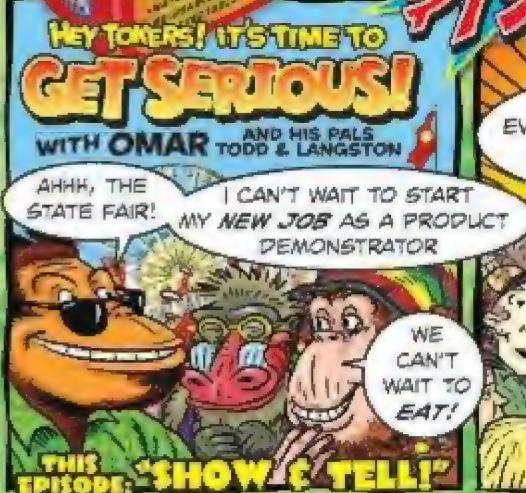
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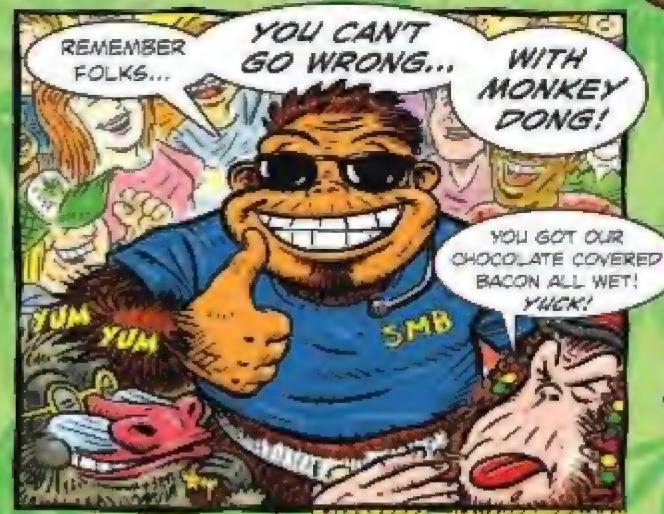


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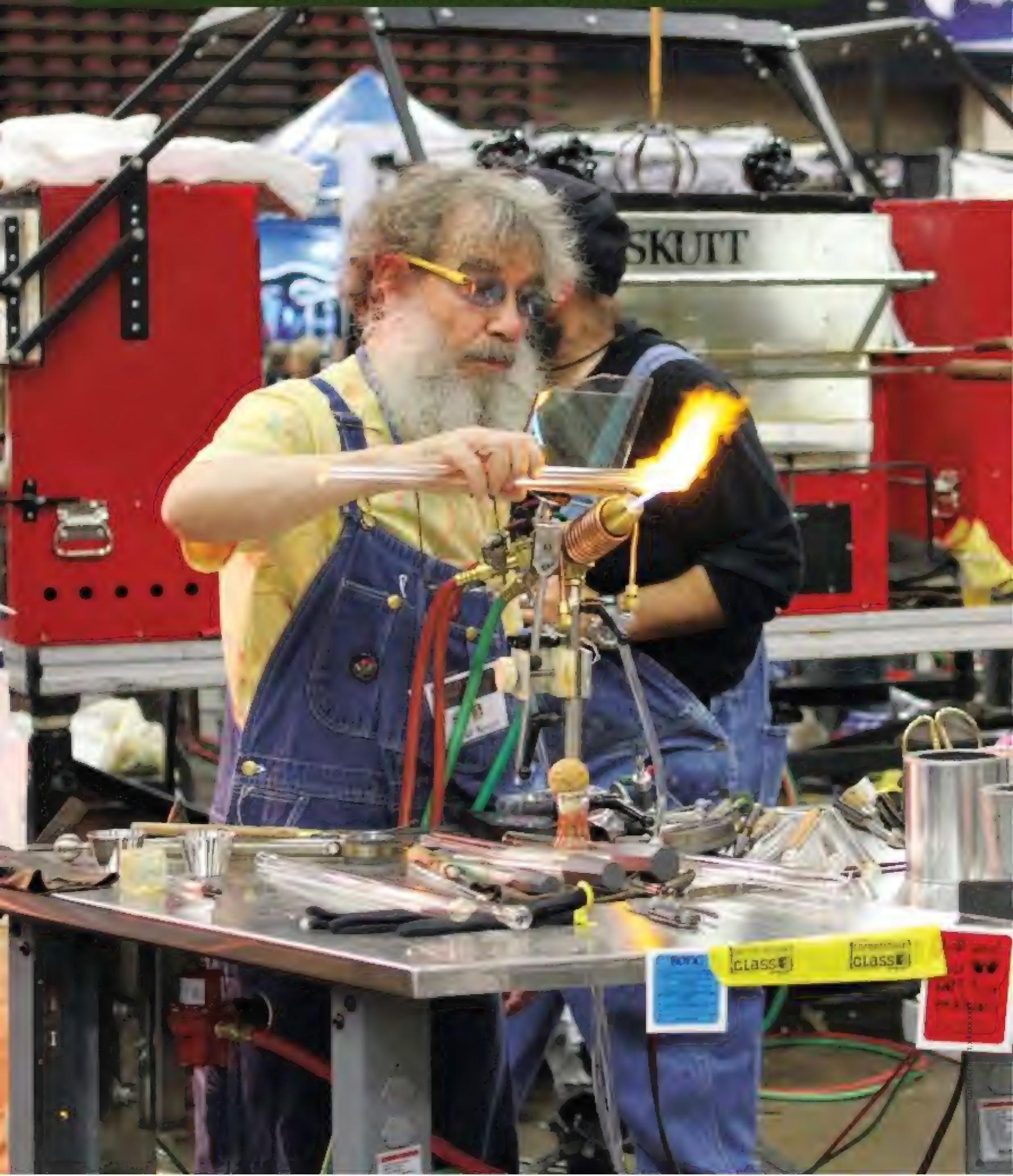
GARDEN GREATNESS As cultivation expertise increases worldwide, the sheer number of high-potency strains rises dramatically. This Northern California garden of L.A. Confidential, a winning HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup strain, is prized for taste and a THC level of more than 20 percent. Check out similar high-powered pot in "Earth's Strongest Strains" (page 47) by cultivation editor Nico Escondido, who has devised a state-of-the-art scoring system for determining the best cannabis on the planet. *Photo by Lochfoot*

Contact
High



Contact High

A FAMILY AFIRE The CK Wholesale Expo brought together top glass smokeware merchandisers and also sponsored, for the first time, the World's Greatest Flameoff—a glassblowing competition. Among the artists was Bob Snodgrass, responsible for sparking the fire of today's modern pipe-making movement. He and grandson Ben Naimen collaborated on their entry—proving once again that the family that learns together, burns together. Visit ckwholesaleexpo.com for more on the May event. Photo by Smuggler







YABBA DAB-BA DOO! Brylcreem was once a popular line of hair products for men. Its jingle, featuring the catchphrase "A little dab'll do ya," became part of American folklore. Who'da thunk that in 2012, "A little dab'll do ya" would be back with a whole new meaning? A "dab" these days is the popular name for a hit of powerful cannabis concentrate, wherein THC levels can exceed 70 percent. Their colors and textures vary wildly, as this cornucopia of dabs illustrates. For more, read "Dawn of the Dab" on page 27. Photo by Freebie



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Gear

Pack Your Bags and Head Out

The best new products for cannabis cultivators p.40



TEENAGERS WISE UP

They know the difference between pot and heroin—even if the Drug Czar doesn't.

By Paul Armentano

Teens are “just saying no” to alcohol, cigarettes and other dangerous drugs in record numbers. Yet the Drug Czar and the mainstream media only want to talk about pot.

That's the take-home message from the findings of the 2011 “Monitoring the Future” study. The survey, first instituted in 1975, annually polls the self-reported use of various licit and illicit substances by junior high and high school students in the US. This year, some 47,000 teens participated in the study. Their responses indicate that

teens are becoming far wiser about the comparative dangers of drugs than many of their elders wish to credit.

This year's survey reported that teen

More teens now regard other drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, as posing a greater risk than cannabis.

use of alcohol and tobacco are approaching historic lows. Daily use of tobacco by adolescents is down 50 percent compared to the mid-1990s. Among high school seniors, the percentage of teens that admit to having engaged in binge

drinking is half of what it was in the early 1980s. Among all junior high and high school students, lifetime use of alcohol—as well as teens' monthly and annual use of booze—are at record lows over the life of the study.

Adolescents' self-reported use of a number of additional hazardous substances has also continued its progressive decline. For instance, the use of cocaine is down more than 50 percent from its earlier peak. Teens' consumption of inhalants and crack cocaine has also fallen steadily. Ditto for adolescents' self-reported use of heroin, anabolic steroids, tranquilizers, even cough and cold medications. In fact, the study's authors conclude that teen use of *any* illicit substance other than marijuana either went down or held steady during the past year.

But if you think that this overall decline in teen drug use would provide prohibitionists or the mainstream media with a reason to celebrate, think again. Here's a sampling of the headlines that greeted the study's release: "Marijuana Use Growing Among Teenagers" (*The New York Times*); "Marijuana Use Among Teens at Highest Level in 30 Years" (*The Los Angeles Weekly*); "Why Teens Need to Know Risks of Marijuana" (from the editorial board of *The Christian Science Monitor*). Also weighing in was the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), which publicly called the report's findings "depressing."

By contrast, the year-to-year data presented in the actual study was far less sensational. "Marijuana use continued to rise among 10th and 12th graders this year for all prevalence periods (lifetime, past year, past 30 days, and daily use in the past 30 days)," the authors noted in a press release, before adding an important caveat: "No one of these changes was large enough to be statistically significant, but they all continue the pattern of a gradual rise...for the fourth straight year—a sharp contrast to the considerable decline that had occurred in the preceding decade."

Predictably, Drug Czar Gil Kerlikowske blamed this four-year "gradual rise"—highlighted by the finding that a greater percentage of high school seniors

"Give young people accurate information, and they will use it to make better decisions that result in less harm to themselves."

(6.6 percent) now report consuming cannabis daily than at any time since the 1980s—on anything *but* the problematic prohibitionist policies that he favors. "The federal drug czar said he believed the increasing prevalence of medicinal marijuana was a factor in the uptick," reported the *Times*. Kerlikowske himself added: "These last couple years, the amount of attention that's been given to medical marijuana has been huge. And when I've done focus groups with high school students in states where medical marijuana is legal, they say, 'Well, if it's called medicine and it's given to patients by caregivers, then that's really the wrong message for us as high school students.'"

Of course, if Kerlikowske's allegations were to hold any weight whatsoever, the self-reported spike in teen use would have started nearly a decade earlier, when the nationwide public debate over medical pot began in earnest. Of the 16 states that have passed medical cannabis laws, 10 did so between 1996 and 2006, a period of time when adolescents' year-by-year pot use fell dramatically. In fact, since 2008, only two states—Michigan in 2008 and Arizona in 2010—have even enacted medical cannabis laws. (Similar laws passed in Delaware, New Jersey and the District of Columbia have yet to be implemented.)

The "Monitoring the Future" study posed a different reason for the recent upswing: "One possible explanation for the resurgence in marijuana use is that in recent years, fewer teens report seeing much danger associated with its use, even with regular use...Teens' disapproval of marijuana use also has fallen during the past three or four years, suggesting a lowering of peer norms against use."

The authors are correct that teens' views regarding the "perceived risk" of cannabis use has diminished in recent years. Since 2008, the percentage of high school seniors who believe that a "great

risk" is associated with cannabis use dropped from an estimated 50 percent to just below 45 percent. However, this downward trend actually began in the early 1990s, when some 80 percent of seniors perceived such a risk—and, curiously, even as the "perceived risk" among teens declined in the 1990s and throughout most of 2000, adolescent rates of marijuana use also fell, raising doubts as to the credibility of the investigators' theory.

Of course, the dirty little secret that neither the Drug Czar nor the "Monitoring the Future" investigators wish to consider is the likelihood that more and more teens now regard other drugs—including alcohol and tobacco—as posing a greater risk than cannabis. Why? Because, truth be told, they don't want to. Cigarettes are highly addictive and can cause cancer. Alcohol is toxic and can cause death by overdose. The use of cocaine and heroin can cause respiratory failure and cardiac arrest. By contrast, marijuana is mildly mood-altering yet relatively benign. It appears that more and more teens are simply (and reasonably) becoming aware of this fact.

"The study's own data proves what NIDA and other Drug War institutions incessantly deny: Knowledge—even if it shows the benefits of a drug—matters," wrote *alternet.org* columnist Kristen Gwynne in her own summary of the "Monitoring the Future" report. "Give young people accurate information, and they will use it to make better decisions that result in less harm to themselves, because teens, like everybody else, do not actually want to get hurt or become addicts."

This is not to say that parents or the general public ought to be lauding the recent rise in teen pot use. There are potential risks associated with cannabis, some of which may be exacerbated the earlier one begins using it. However, there's no doubt these risks are far less severe than those associated with most, if not all, other illicit (and even licit) drugs. America's teens, as well as a majority of the public, now appear to readily understand this fact. So why doesn't the Drug Czar? *



Door Open

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer announced in January that she will no longer pursue her federal lawsuit which blocked the voter-approved medical marijuana act from proceeding.

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POT POLL VAULT IN CANADA

In December, the Toronto-based Forum Research Inc. polled 1,160 respondents ages 18 and older. The results indicate that 66 percent of Canadians now favor legalization. British Columbia showed the highest level of support for marijuana law reform, at a whopping 73 percent, while Quebec showed the lowest—at 61 percent! Among the sample, those in the age group from 55 to 64 showed the most support for legalization.

There's other good news, too: In January, Canada's Liberal Party passed a motion



declaring that, if elected, a Liberal government "will legalize marijuana and ensure the regulation and taxation of its production, distribution and use, while enacting strict penalties for illegal trafficking, illegal importation and exportation, and impaired driving." The party also promised amnesty for all Canadians previously found guilty of simple or minimal pot possession, including expunging those offenses from their criminal records.



WHY WE LOVE RIHANNA!

Gorgeous singing star Rihanna was snapped toking up on multiple occasions during her recent Hawaiian vacation. But this girl doesn't run from the truth. She quoted rapper Drake's lyrics in her tweeted response to the photos: "Kush rolled, glass full ... I prefer the better things!" And earlier in the week, she tweeted:

"4:20...
Hi."



GET STONED, STAY SMART

Once again, research discredits the anti-drug machine's claims that pot leads to cognitive impairment later in life (that is, when they're not busy alleging that it causes full-blown psychosis). A new study conducted by King's College in London and published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology* found that cognitive functioning doesn't decline in early middle-aged adults who have indulged in illegal drugs—including pot—either in the recent past or in their callow youth. Almost 9,000 Britons were surveyed at age 42 about their lifetime drug use. When they turned 50, they had their mental functioning tested, including for memory and attention span. Researchers found that those who used illicit substances did as well—if not somewhat better—than the subjects who never did drugs. Pot was by far the most commonly used substance among the participants, with 6 percent having used it in the previous year (when they were surveyed), and 25 percent of all subjects reporting having used it at some point in their lives.

HIGH & HEALTHY

A new study conducted by the University of California at San Francisco and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, published in the January 2012 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, further substantiates the fact that pot smoke doesn't damage the lungs.

This long-term comprehensive study of 5,115 young adults (between the ages of 18 and 30 when the research began in 1985) was conducted over a period of 20 years. Researchers found that pot smoking was as common as cigarette smoking among the participants. Unsurprisingly, the lung function of the tobacco smokers decreased over time, but low to moderate pot users actually showed *increased* lung capacity compared even to nonsmokers on two different tests: the total volume of air exhaled and the amount of air exhaled in the first second, both measured following the subject's deepest breath.

Even for prolific pot smokers, the test for how much air could be exhaled in the first second stayed the same as nonsmokers, and there was no decline in lung capacity for total air volume exhaled even with the heaviest of tokers.

When it came to interpreting the results, some researchers hypothesized that pot users simply smoke less than tobacco users, while others maintained that the chemical properties of cannabis protect and possibly even strengthen the lungs.

The study also negated the lie that secondhand pot smoke is harmful.



RIVERS RIPS!

In a recent episode of *Joan and Melissa*, veteran comedienne Joan Rivers acquires her medical marijuana card, rips a bong, gets a little too high, calls her daughter for a ride, then proceeds to chant "Food truck! Food truck! Food truck! Food truck!"



STONED AT HOME

Genuine marijuana lovers prefer to keep their lives thematic. But if you're really gonna show your true colors, we recommend signing a lease on this abode for true *stone*-rs located in Fafe, Portugal.

SIGN ALL THREE!

California voters may have nixed Proposition 19 in 2010, but advocates for three more legalization initiatives are gathering signatures with an eye on the upcoming election. The California Cannabis Hemp and Health Initiative—*a.k.a.* the "Jack Herer Initiative"—would decriminalize the use, possession, cultivation, transportation or distribution of marijuana and hemp. Persons arrested or serving time for nonviolent marijuana offenses would immediately be released from prison, jail, parole or probation, and all arrest records and convictions for nonviolent marijuana offenses would be erased.

The Repeal Cannabis Prohibition Act of 2012 seeks to allow adults to legally possess up to three pounds of pot or grow it in a garden up to 10' x 10'. The California Department of Public Health would be in charge of administering



The spirit of Jack Herer lives on.

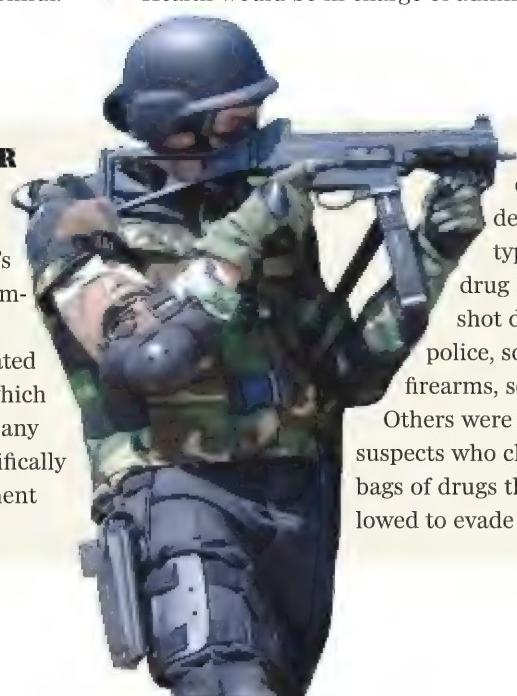
the commercial production of marijuana. The initiative would also repeal all criminal prohibitions on the adult use of cannabis, while mandating strict rules against contributing to the delinquency of minors and driving while impaired.

The "Regulate Marijuana Like Wine" initiative, meanwhile, would repeal the prohibition of marijuana use by adults, strictly

regulate cannabis much like the wine industry, and allow for hemp agriculture and hemp-based products. It would not change current laws regarding medical marijuana, impairment in the workplace or vehicle operation, but it would permit specific personal-possession exemptions, require the dismissal of pending court cases, and provide a defense in related litigation. It would also prevent California from supporting federal enforcement actions that conflict with this law.

DEATH BY DRUG WAR

Fifty-four lives lost: 51 private citizens, three law enforcement officers. That's the absolute minimum number of Drug War deaths in the US last year, as calculated by *StoptheDrugWar.org*, which sought to establish how many people were killed in specifically drug-related law enforcement activities.



Some of the deaths were typical:

drug suspects shot down by police, some with firearms, some not. Others were bizarre: suspects who choked on bags of drugs they swallowed to evade arrest, or

another who drowned in a river to avoid a weed bust. All are tragic, but none more so than the accidental killing of Eurie Stamps, 68, of Framingham, MA, who was gunned down by a SWAT team member in a botched crack-cocaine raid. The most highly publicized police-related

drug death was the fatal shooting of Iraq veteran Jose Guerena, killed in his Tucson, AZ, home by a Pima County SWAT team last May.

StoptheDrugWar.org plans to issue a more detailed report on the 2011 deaths and is currently tracking 2012 Drug War casualties.



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DAWN OF THE DAB

Concentrates gain in popularity, but PR problems remain. *By Russ Belville*

Many cannabis consumers

require a product with greater potency, just as some folks need stronger pain relievers. "Dabs," a term popular in the western medical marijuana states, refers to the smoking of butane hash oil—also known as "butane honey oil" or simply "BHO"—and many medical marijuana patients and cannabis fans swear by it.

The "butane" part refers to the use of that solvent to extract the cannabis resin from the plant, leaving a very potent form of hash oil. Butane, of course, is an extremely flammable gas that can be stored as a liquid under high pressure.

The danger? A hashmaker working behind closed doors in an unventilated space may not be aware that butane is a heavier-than-air gas that likes to pool on the floor near pilot lights, switches and discarded cigarette butts. Last year, a young man carelessly making hash oil blew up his hotel room in Oregon. His girlfriend and two-year-old child, also in the room, were unharmed, but he suffered burns.

That incident captures in a nutshell the public relations problems that the dawn of BHO can produce for cannabis law reformers. The simple fact is that butane hash oil *can* be made safely, so long as it's produced in a ventilated area far from ignition sources. Unfortunately, just as with alcohol prohibition, cannabis prohibition has led to unsafe and unregulated production of hash oil.

The favored new talking point for opponents of marijuana legalization has become "This is *not* your father's Woodstock weed!" They maintain that the weed of the 1960s had a low THC potency, while today's cannabis is a bazillion times stronger.



Clockwise: Concentrates can exceed 70% THC potency; medical marijuana patients find dabs to be a great pain reliever; torches have bad connotations

Of course, this is pure bullshit. For one thing, a test for THC potency didn't exist until the 1970s. For another, high-potency sinsemilla has always been around.

BHO is certainly more potent than what the average baby boomer may have encountered—indeed, experienced pot smokers can pass out after a dab or suffer intense coughing fits. But

The increased potency of BHO simply means that less of the product is required to achieve the same effect.

remember, BHO is merely a purified form of cannabis; as such, it is still as nontoxic as smoking pot. The increased potency of BHO—or even some elite strains of cannabis—simply means that less of the product is required to achieve the same effect. This translates into less inhalation of burning plant material and hot gases.

The manufacture and use

of BHO pose little danger if done responsibly. And some of the dangers aren't even real; they are dangers of perception only. BHO provides your local "Action News" team with a marijuana story that shows crack-pipe-style torches used on golden, sticky, heroin-looking goo made from a process that can cause meth lab-like explosions.

These days, even most non-tokers recognize joints and pipes as relatively benign—but not metal skillets or titanium nails being heated up with Coleman-stove propane torches. As a result, the public can easily be encouraged to associate BHO with crack, heroin and crystal meth. Bongs looked scary and unfamiliar back in 1980, but we helped people understand that this new device actually

cooled and filtered marijuana smoke for the benefit of the user. And since human ingenuity is always on the move, new products will eventually be developed that utilize flameless ways to heat the oil (and a lot sooner without the burdens of prohibition).

The bottom line? No matter where the discussion of BHO takes us, we must always refer back to the basics: BHO is still just cannabis, and cannabis is nontoxic, with a low risk of dependence in any form. Additionally, any problem with BHO is caused by cannabis prohibition, which makes regulation and inspection impossible, increased potency more desirable, manufacture and selling more profitable, and proper education of consumers and the public more difficult. *



Dangerous Dabs?

Alcohol prohibition made it profitable for untrained moonshiners to make whiskey and occasionally blow up their own backwoods distilleries. A hash-maker wearing protective gear is no more dangerous than a gas station attendant filling your tank.

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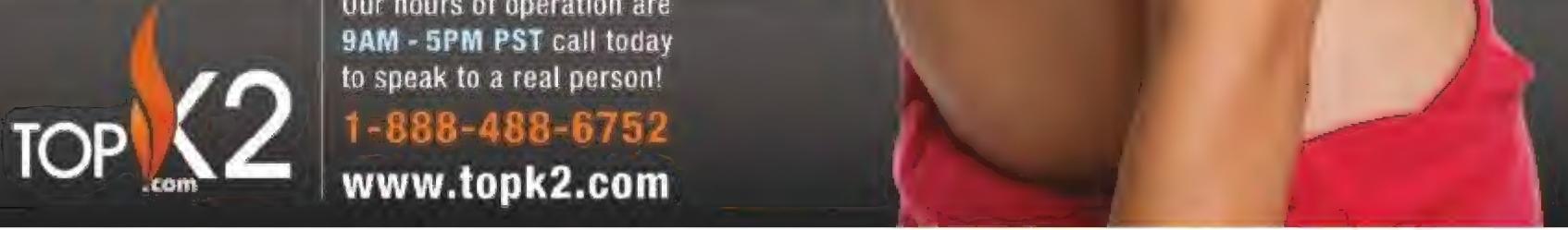
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Dave W. and Ego Sensation perform a big hit.

"If you have a warring society and an economy that's based on an industrial war machine, you aren't going to want your society to be getting stoned, 'cause then nobody's gonna wanna fight."

Nowadays, say you're listening to a band—it can be hard to tell how deep the irony goes, or if the band's shtick is anything but irony at all. You might ponder this as you grok the self-proclaimed "space rock" masters White Hills, who come off all Hawkwind, Blue Cheer, Motorhead and Virgin Prunes rolled into one freakily brain-pinching sound. "This fucking *rocks!*" you'll likely say when you hear their fashionably unfashionable new record, *Frying on This Rock*, or 2011's *H-p1*—and you'd be correct, since White Hills kustom-kraft their shit to hit all the right headbanging' buttons. But there's a lot more going on here, and it's serious stuff.

White Hills are New York–via–San Francisco guitarist/visionary Dave W. and bassist Ego Sensation. *H-p1* was an ambitious double LP that sprawled over a vast universe of sludgy, ecstatic doom, minimalist drone and ambient soundscapery, all of which served a larger concept: telling the story of a shady government owned and operated by corporate monoliths.

"*H-p1* is a term like a scientist would name a virus, like HIV or H1N1," says Dave W. "The record has a theme about what we see as the disease of greed that permeates our society and our culture."

And about damn time, he adds: "I wanted to make a statement. We're traveling the

world, meeting people and hearing about people's woes, and seeing this globalization of a few people really sticking it to everyone—and nobody doing anything, nobody *saying* anything."

Even so, White Hills don't actually make a lot of big lyrical pronouncements about our contemporary worldwide woes on the record. "The concept takes place through the sound," says Ego Sensation. "It's a revolution of sound, disrupting the status quo via

sound waves."

Frying on This Rock brings a tighter, riffier edge to the band's style of mind-frenching psychedelia. Slash-riffing, fuzzed-out ax leads, greasy dollops of wah-wah, bowel-blasting bass, random constellations of out-and-out noize: It rocks intensely, with a newfound determination and focus. Like *H-p1*, the new album puts into acutely headbanging action a lofty bunch of ideas, and it'll hit a lotta nerves with people who are seeking something, well, yeah, *substantial* in their heavy, heavy rock.

Both records are also incredibly loud.

"I want our records to breathe," Dave W. says. "Why constrict the air that you breathe?"

Why indeed? And if White Hills smoke a little weed from time to time, that's their prerogative, the System be blowed.

"Weed has been stigmatized in this country and around the world because it's a euphoric thing," Dave W. notes, "and it causes people to mellow out, it causes people to not be angry and aggravated. If you have a warring society and an economy that's based on an industrial war machine, you aren't going to want your society to be getting stoned, 'cause then nobody's gonna wanna fight."

"A lot of times, before we go down to the studio, we'll get high to loosen up and find new places to go," Ego adds. "It's a great way to challenge what your inner barriers are telling you to do." *John Payne*

Riding High

"Last time we played in London, four different people walked up to me and handed me bags of weed. On our European rider we even specify weed as something that we want."



SAVE OUR SINSE!

Captain We're Sinking prove that where there's smoke, there's fire.



You know where's a dumb place to do a photo shoot involving a whole lot of weed? A garden. You know when's a bad time to do it? In the glaring light of early morning, hours after your subjects have sweated through a rowdy, beer-soaked show and minutes before they depart for the next one. You know who doesn't care? Captain We're Sinking.

The band members are huddled under an arbor. Drummer Bill Orender has been charged with holding the double fistful of sticky nugs, and though he's doing his best to keep it under control, buds are dropping out of his hands and rolling away, not to be seen again for months (when the garden's owner can look forward

to harvesting an unexpected delight). Bob Barnett and Leo Vergnetti, who share guitar and vocal duties, search half-heartedly for the crumbs, but

practice schedule is spotty at best: As Orender explains via e-mail, "We all live in different places, so we only get about a weekend a month to practice.

CWS are as DIY as they come, more interested in making friends than in making money.

soon return their sleepy gaze to the camera's lens.

The northeastern Pennsylvania pop punks could be said to have applied a similar laissez-faire philosophy to their brief and bubbly career thus far. Since forming in 2007, they've toured only sporadically, usually accepting invitations to play Fest (basically the punk SXSW) in Gainesville, FL, and then filling in dates along the way down. Their

We have to gather ideas and then remember how the other new songs went."

The songs are where this band delivers, however, abandoning their who-cares attitude to craft roaring, melodic



Basement Brownie Binging

When they're not tearing up basements, Captain We're Sinking snack on vegan pot brownies with Hawaiian Punch and watch old episodes of *Trailer Park Boys*. "I only recently discovered it thanks to Netflix," says drummer Bill Orender.

anthems. As a result, their 2008 full-length debut, *The Animals Are Out*, and a handful of seven-inches have earned them fans in the basements, dorm rooms and pizza kitchens of the less glamorous regions of the country. A quick scan of their YouTube oeuvre reveals thousands of views for even a video of the band rapping about *Star Wars* ("I know a Wookie that can tear off your arms and legs!") in a fan's kitchen. That's the kind of grassroots following major label A&R scouts would have been slobbering over a decade ago. But that system is now shattered—and even if it wasn't, there's no indication the band has any desire to "take it to the next level."

CWS are as DIY as they come, more interested in making friends than in making money. Plenty of friends means plenty of smoke, especially on tour, where bassist Zack Charette can be counted on to know who will hook them up in any given town. Though all the members of CWS smoke, Orender admits to laying off when the band gets down to business: "Weed usually makes me sleep, so that kinda hinders playing drums!" Hopefully it won't hinder the production of their forthcoming full-length, which they've been promising fans for over a year now.

And if they're worried about paying for the recording session, at least they can count on a wicked harvest in that garden come spring. *Polly Watson*

Captain We're Sinking's latest release, *With Joe Riley*, is on evilweevilrecords.com.

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LEAD STONES ARE a three-piece psychedelic rock band from Brooklyn. Dark, pounding drum-and-organ drones underpin sunny harmonies, jangling 12-string melodies and vintage synth mantras. The Stones draw from 1960s New York heroin blues and '90s shoegaze to create a sound that is moody and misanthropic, wistful and melancholic.

The band—composed of drummer Tom Vigliotta, organ/synth wizard Andy Plovnick, and singer/guitarist Bryan Quinn—spent the last year playing around the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states. Their eight-song debut album,



Set and Setting, was released by the Electrick Gypsy Service and sold out its first run in 2011. Lead Stones instituted a unique name-your-own-price policy for digital downloads of *Set and Setting*. According to the band's website, you can pay "any amount you desire...including zero."

A new seven-inch single is due out in late winter 2012.

For more info on Lead Stones, including audio samples and tour dates, check out hightimes.com/leadstones.



Ringo Deathstarr loosens up.

DELTA-9 DREAM

Ringo Deathstarr's *Colour Trip* into the unknown.

You don't have to be high to appreciate shoegaze/dream-pop bands like the Jesus & Mary Chain, My Bloody Valentine or Spacemen 3—but it never hurts. As an acolyte of the aforementioned acts, Ringo Deathstarr singer/guitarist Elliott Frazier doesn't mind admitting that he's ingested a few psychedelics over the years. "We like to party," he laughs.

Indeed, last year Ringo Deathstarr released the single "So High," off their full-length debut *Colour Trip*. Frazier maintains that while the song certainly alludes to a marijuana buzz, it's really an ode to exultation. "It's about being high in every way," he says. Amusingly, it was conceived while he was performing at a summer music camp for kids. "I got there a little early—I picked up the guitar and was playing this thing and just started singing 'I'm so high,'" he recalls. (We assume he finished before the kids arrived.)

Ringo Deathstarr's music vibrates like a cast-iron radiator—but instead of broadcasting heat, it radiates swirls of distortion that swathe shimmering melodies and the ethereal boy/girl vocals of Frazier and bassist Alex Gehring. Like J&MC, the hooks are big and poppy, awash in wall-to-wall swooning and soaring guitars.

Elliott started the group in 2005, but it took several years to find the right members. They released an EP in 2007 and re-released it

a couple of years later, just as they were signing with the UK's Club AC30. Ringo Deathstarr followed in the fall with the *Shadow* EP featuring three new tracks and their cover of "Just You" (from the TV show *Twin Peaks*.)

At this moment, they're much bigger in Europe than they are in the States—they've opened for Smashing Pumpkins overseas, both late last year and early this one—and (strangely enough) they're particularly huge in Japan. "We were at the Fuji Rock Festival [about two hours outside Tokyo], walking around checking out bands, and all these people were coming up and wanted photos of us—and our autographs. It's weird," Frazier observes.

Sometimes, he uses pot to free himself from the self-imposed shackles on his creativity.

Though he was straight-edge growing up, Frazier found his gateway drug in alcohol back in his college days: Drunk in the dorms one night, he followed some people back to their room where they offered to get him high. He tried it and threw up shortly thereafter—but that didn't dissuade him from further use. Sometimes, he uses pot to free himself from the self-imposed shackles on his creativity.

"It's fun when you're writing music," he says. "Maybe it helps the preconditions go away. Sometimes I'm afraid to write songs because I'm worried they might suck, and you kind of loosen up and just forget about it." *Chris Parker*



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GONZO LOVE

A new book details a clandestine tryst with Hunter S. Thompson.

Margaret Harrell was the copy editor for Hunter S. Thompson's first book, *Hell's Angels*, about the notorious biker gang, published in 1971. Although Thompson was married at the time, they managed to carry on a passionate romance. Harrell writes: "I'd been advised early on, by someone who knew Hunter, that he had an open marriage. I believed it, though I have since learned (much later) that it was untrue, in fact gossip."

Harrell also delivers an interesting description of the first time she smoked marijuana: "[A] mass of stars twinkled *on my eyelids*. Panicked, I opened my eyes. When I tentatively dared to close them, the stars still spread out over a vast sky as if right there."

I had assigned Thompson to write a behind-the-scenes article about his promotional tour for *Hell's Angels* for my countercultural magazine, *The Realist*. He was broke, so I paid him \$200 in advance and offered to send him some LSD if it would help.

He replied, "You can send me some acid to help me level out. And I'll send you a dozen just-born marijuana weeds. You can plant them in Central Park."

Later, on a visit to New York, Thompson arranged for me to meet him and Harrell for dinner. She was an attractive redhead, smart and witty. Later that week, having forgotten her name, I called the publisher and was told that the copy editor was Barbara Willson. I asked Hunter for permission to ask her out, and he said, "Fine—but who's Barbara Willson?"

I assumed he was joking, so I foolishly sent her a raunchy letter saying, among other things: "I would like to make funny, passionate, friendly, cosmic, absurd love with you..." In the book, Harrell reveals that "Barbara turned the letter over immediately—downstairs to the Random House obscenity files..." *Paul Krassner*



Margaret Harrell
Keep This Quiet!
My Relationship with Hunter S. Thompson, Milton Klonsky, and Jan Mensaert (Saeulum University Press)

asked Hunter for permission to ask her out, and he said, "Fine—but who's Barbara Willson?"

I assumed he was joking, so I foolishly sent her a raunchy letter saying, among other things: "I would like to make funny, passionate, friendly, cosmic, absurd love with you..." In the book, Harrell reveals that "Barbara turned the letter over immediately—downstairs to the Random House obscenity files..." *Paul Krassner*

GAME RECOMMENDATIONS



Star Wars: The Old Republic
(BioWare)

Is *The Old Republic* the innovation that fans of both *Star Wars* and MMORPGs have been hungering for, or is this new game just another *World of Warcraft* clone with a popular trademark? The million gamers who have signed on since it was launched are too busy raving about the stellar



Metal Gear Solid: HD Collection
Directed by Hideo Kojima
(Konami)

Those already familiar with this series know that the five games in this collection aren't the limit to its appeal. When it comes to *Metal Gear*, the biggest draw is the unique storytelling, from self-referential humor to serious political commentary. In fact, throughout each of the games, the

MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS



Can
Tago Mago (40th Anniversary Edition)
(Spoon/Mute)

Formed in late-'60s-era Cologne by a free-jazz drummer and a young rock guitarist who were both ex-students of German composer Karlheinz Stockhausen, Can made music that flew far beyond the borders of electronic music. With 1971's *Tago Mago*, the band cast off all normal pop

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Grow Girl
By Heather Donahue
(Gotham Books)

In the years following *The Blair Witch Project*, indie-film star Heather Donahue found her acting career on hold and decided to start life anew as a pot grower in California. *Grow Girl* is the tale of her one-year stint as a member of "The Community," a group of medical marijuana



Pot Farm
By Matthew Gavin Frank
(University of Nebraska Press)

To ease the pain that he experienced during his mother's bout with cancer, author Matthew Frank and his wife moved to a medical marijuana farm in California for a season. The daily hard work of clipping and tending to plants, their interactions with their fellow nonconformist workers,

graphics and cinematic character progression to care. And if you like to enjoy your favorite herb while living out your childhood *Star Wars* dreams, the visual and audio components are elevated from the impressive to the sublime. Be prepared to frequently visit a galaxy far, far away. *Kristy Ambrose*

controller will be sitting idle in your hands—perfect for those who plan to be couch-locked for a couple of hours. *MGS:HD* offers the most bang for an ent's buck since 2007's *Orange Box*, while also keeping itself accessible to newcomers and fanboys alike—particularly for those on Xbox 360. *Tyler Stewart*

forms to wrench exhilarating maelstroms out of hypnotic drums/bass and walls of aural texture. Ironically, the fearlessly non-generic *Tago Mago* has earned props as a milestone in the history of rock for its major impact on a generation of rock-smashers such as PiL, Radiohead and Sonic Youth. *John Payne*

growers who provide lessons in cultivation. Donahue wound up transforming part of her secluded house into a grow op, so scattered among the accounts of her sex life and her comic adventures raising a puppy, chickens and a vegetable garden are a wealth of tips on growing great bud indoors. *Lee Cart*

and the occasional toke on the farm's product helped the couple regain a sense of balance in their lives. Frank delivers an honest behind-the-scenes look at growing marijuana outdoors in this well-researched and frank examination of a (no longer quite so) fringe society in America. *Lee Cart*

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WEED ON THE WEB

Digital high-lights we're buzzing about.

► Little Feat Receives 2011 Doobie Award for Best Jam Band

On January 3rd, HIGH TIMES senior editor Bobby Black finally caught up with jam band legends Little Feat at their City Winery gig in NYC to present them with the Doobie Award they won back in March 2011 for Best Jam Band. Check out the video at hightimes.com/littlefeat.

For info on the 2012 Doobies, go to facebook.com/doobieawards.

► Marijuana's DNA—Now on Your iPad!

After mapping the cannabis genome, researcher Kevin McKernan decided to bring his breakthrough to the public via an app available on iTunes. The Jane-Ome (Mary Jane Genome), touted as "a genomics- and science-based dissection of medical marijuana and a gateway to the cannabis genome project performed by Medicinal Genomics," comes complete with "ever-updating exclusive genomic information on various cannabis genomes..." The Jane-Ome is a must-have for scientifically-minded stoners, but the slick and informative app offers a little something for everyone: In addition to marijuana's genetic information, the app features a strain browser, cannabis-centric trivia games and videos, as well as music from Slightly Stoopid. The Jane-Ome is only \$1.99 on the App Store.

Read HIGH TIMES' interview with Kevin McKernan at hightimes.com/mj dna

► Activist Campus of the Month

The College of Charleston has become a hotbed for drug-policy activism, with the campus's Students for Sensible Drug Policy chapter leading the way. The chapter hosts regular "Know Your Rights" and harm-reduction training events and brings vocal advocates for marijuana law reform to campus, including Kevin Booth, director of *American Drug War*, and speakers from the ACLU, the Harm Reduction Coalition and LEAP. As a result, SSDP has helped make drug law reform a mainstream issue on campus.

Learn more at hightimes.com/tags/ssdp

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Miss May 2012

NAME: Shiray

PROFILE: Shiray Anastasia

AGE: 19

CITY: San Jose, CA

OCCUPATION: Student,
dispensary volunteer

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**MUNCHIES**

DEADHEAD DELICACIES

A tailgate party recipe.

WHEN I WAS a rebellious teen in the mid-'90s, experimenting with all the drug no-nos I'd been taught about in school programs like DARE, I had the good fortune of making two dear friends—Hank and Jen—a pair of hip Deadheads who helped me “see the light” and keep one of my big toes on the ground.

Before moving to my Oregon 'hood, they'd spent a good many years following the Grateful Dead, slinging

tie-dyes and grilled cheese sandwiches to fund all those long, strange trips. Hank ate lots of parking lot cookies in the early days, but he was usually flying so high that he couldn't tell what the sweets were really bringing to the show. One day, he saved a particularly good-looking cookie for a pre-work breakfast.

After an hour, he began trying to catch glimpses of himself in reflective surfaces, feeling the herb already at work on his eyes. In another hour, he was certain the cookie was doing its job. An hour after that, he wasn't certain *he* should be doing *his* job. And by the time six hours went by and he was still getting higher, Hank thought, “I have to learn how to do this.”

Over a couple decades of recipe tweaks and lots of anecdotal research (in parking lots and out) this is now his favorite concoction. During a recent morning-fresh test I proved it anew: You *have* to learn how to do this.

Mary Ought Six

DROPKICK COOKIES

9-10 grams cannabis
1 stick unsalted butter
½ cup flour
½ cup sugar
¼ cup packed brown sugar
1 egg
½ tsp vanilla extract
½ tsp almond extract
½ tsp baking soda
Raisins, chocolate chips, nuts, dried fruits or whatever yummy extras you like (optional)

375°F. Beat the cannabis butter with a mixer on medium for 30 seconds. Add half the flour, all the sugars and extracts, and the egg and baking soda; keep mixing until thoroughly blended, then beat in the remaining flour. Stir in the optional extras (if any) until they're evenly distributed throughout the dough.

Lick the batter from the beaters to get a spicy preview of the “weed flour” paired with the almond extract, which produces a lovely hint of clove flavor. (*Mmmm!*) Next, drop teaspoonfuls of the batter two inches apart on a cookie sheet (no need to grease). Bake at 375°F for eight to 10 minutes, until edges are golden brown. Remove from the oven and let set for one minute before placing the cookies on wire cooling racks. *Stones* 20+

Grind the marijuana to a fine powder the consistency of flour (this should make up to one to ¼ cup). Melt the butter in a pan, bringing it to a simmer over the lowest heat possible. Dump in the “herb powder” stirring continuously for 10 minutes. Turn off the heat and let the butter cool to room-temperature softness.

Next, preheat the oven to



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HOT PRODUCTS

What's new for cannabis cultivators and connoisseurs.

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The new **Solar System Grow**

Cabinets from Universal Hydro offer a variety of discreet, lockable and light-tight growboxes, all rolling on casters for complete mobility and with the option to grow hydroponically or in soil. The lighting is provided by an air-cooled, 600-watt high-pressure sodium (HPS) system, and the kits come with nutrients, growing medium and even a DVD to get you started. Full-time phone support from experts and free shipping for a limited time.

2 Mite-Free Pot

Prices vary

dyna-mite.net

Few things suck more than a spider mite infestation, and while the makers of this product can't say it kills them, we sure can!

Dyna-mite Leaf Sheen is billed as a "plant health" product—a safe, nontoxic and odor-free formula that protects plants from pests and diseases and removes contaminants from leaf surfaces. The formula is highly concentrated, so be sure to dilute it before spraying the tops and bottoms of leaves liberally. Repeat spraying as necessary every ten days or so.

3 Blunt About Vapor

\$219.99

thevaporblunt.com

Portable vaporizers can be hit-or-miss, but we love the new **Vapor Blunt**, a surefire way to replace harmful tobacco

wrappers with a smooth hit of vapor that lasts. The design mimics an oversized blunt and heats up in just a minute. The innovative stir knob allows you to mix up the bowl without opening the unit. Vapor Blunts come in a variety of color combinations, with a battery charger, cleaning brush and poker all included.

4 Grab Your Bag!

Prices vary

dimebagstorage.com

If you're carrying a glass pipe, you want to arrive at your destination with your weapon intact—and if you're carrying weed, it's best to transport it properly so the scent of ganja doesn't give you away.

Dime Bags to the rescue! These hemp/polyester-blend bags are padded, outfitted with odor-proof pouches and hidden stash pockets. They come in a variety of colors and sizes to accommodate both hand pipes and tubes. The Lifestyle series features backpacks, duffel and computer bags.

BUDDHA

SEEDS

4G

08:20 am

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Supersative and Superproductive.

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MARKET ANALYSIS

Prices by the ounce

Kush's reign over the market continues. It's been the most submitted strain for 15 of the past 17 months. Purps edged out Diesel to take second place, and Cheese made the top five for the second straight month; however, it finished \$69 below its previous month's average.

US Price Index
YTD Average: \$327

Kind Index
YTD Average: \$414

Mids Index
YTD Average: \$278


(Sour Diesel)
"One joint in your back pocket will stink up an entire club!
Good stuff!"
Detroit, MI

Schwag Index
YTD Average: \$101


TRANS HIGH MARKET QUOTATIONS

STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE
Alabama	Montgomery	Grape Ape	\$250
Alaska	Kenai Peninsula	A-Train Sensi Star Cheese	250 250 280
Arizona	Phoenix	Kush	400
California	Los Angeles Sacramento San Jose	Sour Diesel Cheese Blue Dream	325 250 350
Colorado	Pueblo	Purple Kush Blue Dream	300 300
Idaho	Sandpoint	Lemon Skunk	200
Illinois	Chicago	Purps Blue Diesel OG Kush	400 320 450
Indiana	Indianapolis	Apollo 13 NYC Diesel God Bud	350 375 350
Michigan	Detroit St. Clair	Granddaddy Urkel Sour Diesel OG Kush	450 450 400
Minnesota	Duluth	Lemon Kush	300
Missouri	Pike County	Haze	550
Nevada	Las Vegas	Purps Blue Dream	325 275
New Jersey	Jersey City	OG Kush	400
New York	New York	Strawberry Cough Chem Dog	480 480
Ohio	Dayton	Sour Diesel Schwag	450 90
Oregon	Eugene	Chocolope Headband Super Lemon Haze	320 280 280
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	Kush	375
Rhode Island	Providence	Kaia Kush	300
South Dakota	Sioux Falls	Golden Goat Purple Haze	350 400
Tennessee	Nashville	Mexican White Widow	115 700
Texas	Corpus Christi Tyler	Cheese Super Lemon Haze	350 425
Washington	Spokane	Trainwreck	200
Wisconsin	Madison	Blue Cheese Afghan Kush	300 340
INTERNATIONAL			
Canada	Hamilton	Super Lemon Haze	C\$250
England	Manchester	Purple Kush	£250
Slovenia	Ljubljana	Chronic	€150

We want to know what you're smoking! Submit your strain information, including location and price by the ounce, to thmq@hightimes.com.

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Doctor \$99 Stormtrooper \$543 Vanilla Kush \$95 Big
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\$165 Deep Chunk \$97 Roadkill \$67 WMD \$97

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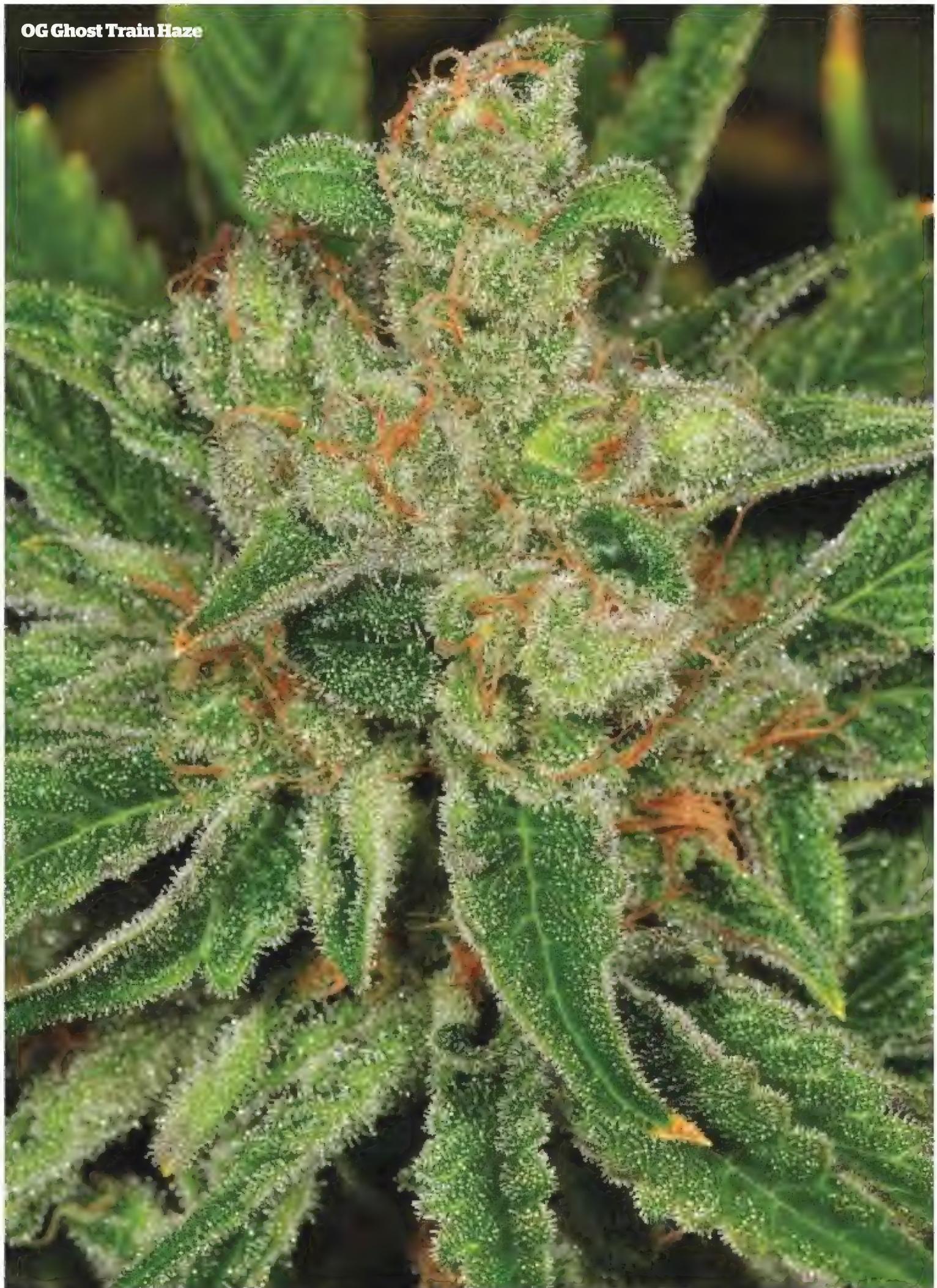
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The OG Ghost Train Haze, 2011's strongest strain on Earth.

After implementing our new Cannabis Cup scoring system in April 2011—which utilizes lab testing as part of the equation—and after four trial runs in cities around the world including San Francisco, Denver and Amsterdam, we figured we had a pretty good hold on exactly which strains are the most potent on the planet. Here is our list of the world's strongest *sativas*, *indicas* and hybrids that Ms. *Cannabis sativa L.* has to offer. Warning: This is definitely not your parents' pot. *By Nico Escondido*

OG Ghost Train Haze



CREAM OF THE CROPS

The first "Elite Eight" strains listed herein tested highest in THC potency among the more than 300 varieties entered in the four Cannabis Cup events that HIGH TIMES held in 2011. They're in the uppermost echelon when it comes to strength and reflect not only superior genetics, but also the best cultivation techniques possible in order to unlock their potential.

All of these strains, including the 16 others that round out the list, possessed the highest levels of THC, with each of them registering at least 20% when laboratory tested on gas chromatograph (GC) machines. Gas chromatography is used in analytical chemistry for separating and analyzing compounds. These entries were submitted from across countries in both North America and Europe and are currently the strongest strains on planet Earth. Don't worry, we'll be updating this list annually, after every year's round of Cannabis and Medical Cannabis Cups!



OG Ghost Train Haze

*Southwest Alternative Care
Denver Medical Cannabis Cup*

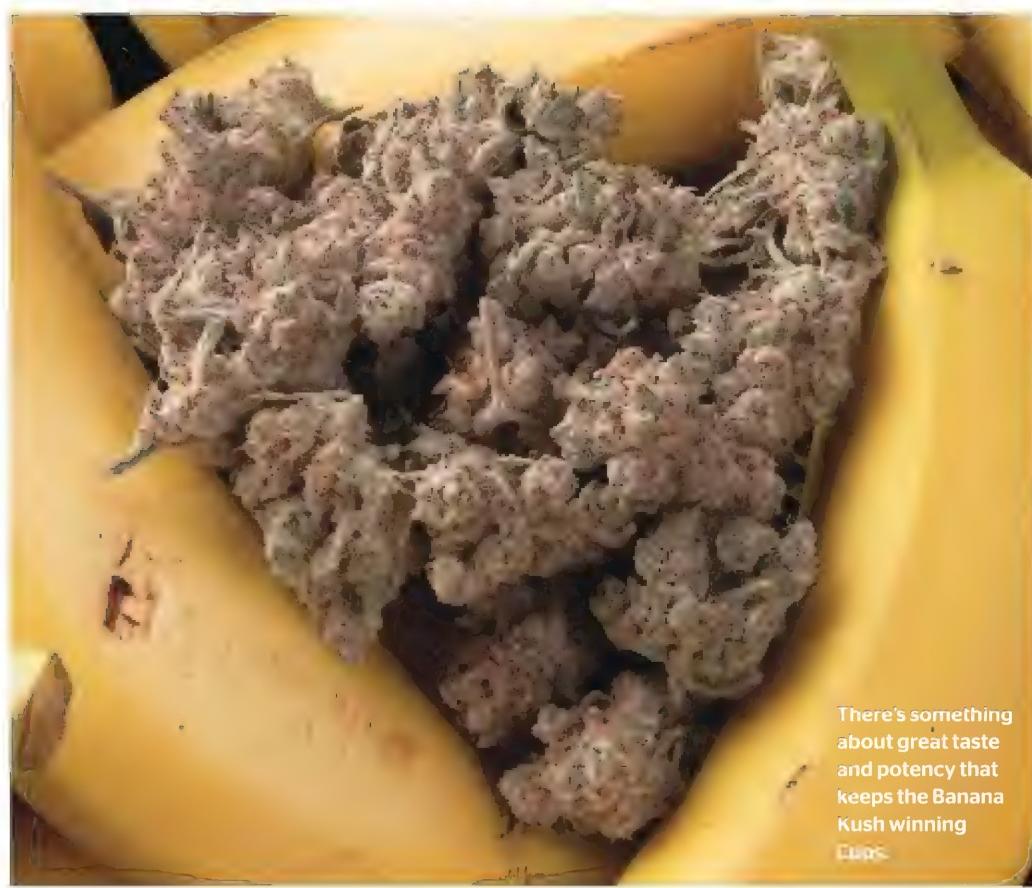
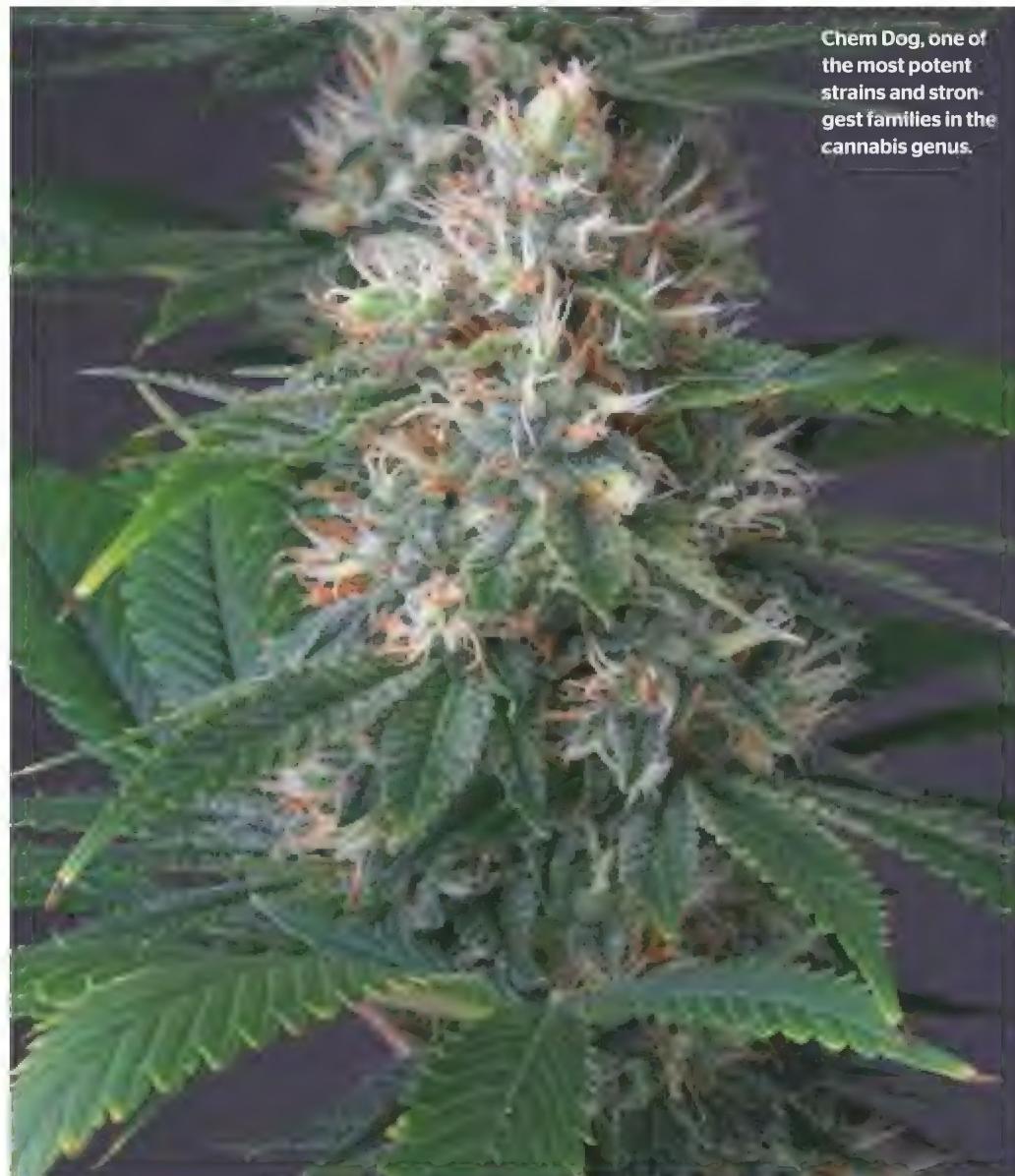
The strain with the highest percentage of THC at any of the 2011 HIGH TIMES Cup events came from Denver, CO: It was entered by Southwest Alternative Care and was created and grown by Rare Dankness Genetics. But what exactly is the OG Ghost Train Haze? One might guess she has some OG and some Haze in her. But more accurately this strain has the Haze, as in Neville's Haze, mixed together with some OG and Trainwreck. For those of you keeping score at home, the exact line looks like this: OG Kush x (Trainwreck x Neville's Haze). Surprising? Not really. Strong? Tops in '11.



Chem Dog

*Highland Health
Denver Medical Cannabis Cup*

You know the name, we all love the strain—and if she's not No. 1, of course she's No. 2. The only surprise here is that this was the first time Chem Dog has ever been entered into a HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup, but she didn't disappoint! Grown by Highland Health for the Denver Medical Cannabis Cup in Colorado last April ('11), the Chem D topped out at close to 25%.



There's something about great taste and potency that keeps the Banana Kush winning.
CLIPS



On Lineage & Cities

When talking about the strongest strains on Earth, the obvious follow-up questions are: What's the strongest overall lineage (or cannabis family) on Earth? And, of course: Which is the strongest city on Earth? After going through piles and piles of lab reports, it eventually became clear that the answers to both of these questions are very closely related.

To start, it is now apparent—as was suspected—that the strongest cannabis lineage is clearly the Chem Dog family. Consider this: More than 300 total entries were submitted in 2011 in flower categories across four HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cups. Out of those only 31, or 10 percent, tested over 20% THC (sorry, only 24 made it into this article). Out of those 31 that broke the 20% threshold, 22 of them contain lineage spawned from the Chem Dog strain.

Now, Chemdog—the man and legendary grower, not the strain—reports to HIGH TIMES that his fabled strain began from bag seed pulled out of a pound of ganja he bought in the early '90s on Dead tour. Where did that pound of supreme fire originate? Colorado.

You probably see where this is going, but just in case, here's another little factoid: Out of the 31 strains entered last year that tested over 20% THC, 19 of them came from the Denver Medical Cannabis Cup. That's more than 60 percent of the strongest strains of 2011 coming from just Colorado with the rest spread out over the other three Cups (San Fran, Detroit and Amsterdam).

So do we think it's a coincidence that the strongest strains and the origin of the strongest lineage both hail from Colorado? Hell no, it's no coincidence! And our apologies to the great pot cities in California and the Netherlands, but the hands-down winner of the 2011 potency challenge is Denver, and the strongest lineage is that of the Chem Dog family. If you've got a problem with that, come on out to a Cup and prove us wrong!



Banana Kush

Highland Health

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

Another entry by Highland Health in the 2011 Denver Cup: The precise genetics are unknown, but what we can say for sure is that there's definitely some Kush present, which likely accounts for her powerful punch. What we don't know is exactly where that awesome banana flavor comes from!



Golden Goat

Colorado Alternative Medicine

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

The previously unknown Golden Goat was entered by Colorado Alternative Medicine in the 2011 Denver Cup. (Don't feel left out—this is the first time we've ever seen her, too.) In case you're wondering about the lineage, it's Island Sweet Skunk x Hawaiian x Romulan. And though she's a hybrid, the Golden Goat offers an uplifting, *sativa*-like high with Super Silver Haze flavor and fruity aftertones. Where that name came from is another story...



G-13 Widow

Biocare

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

Finally...a non-Chem D family member cracks the list! And wouldn't you know it, she's a G-13 x White Widow. The G-13, engineered by the US government's medical project at the University of Mississippi, was always said to possess the highest levels of THC available at the time, and crossing those genetics with the legendary White Widow should only boost the case for a Top 5 inclusion. Entered by Biocare at the 2011 Denver Cup, this strain hit nearly 24% THC, giving her a definite "one-hit wonder" status.



Presidential Kush, 22.76% THC

Colorado Alternative Medicine

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

Well, it appears the folks at Colorado Alternative Medicine are doing something very, very right: They came proper for our first annual Medical Cannabis Cup in Denver last year, entering two strains that tipped the scales at over 22% THC (see above). This entry, their Presidential Kush, was a cross of two fabled strains known for both potency and flavor, the OG Kush and the Lemon Skunk.

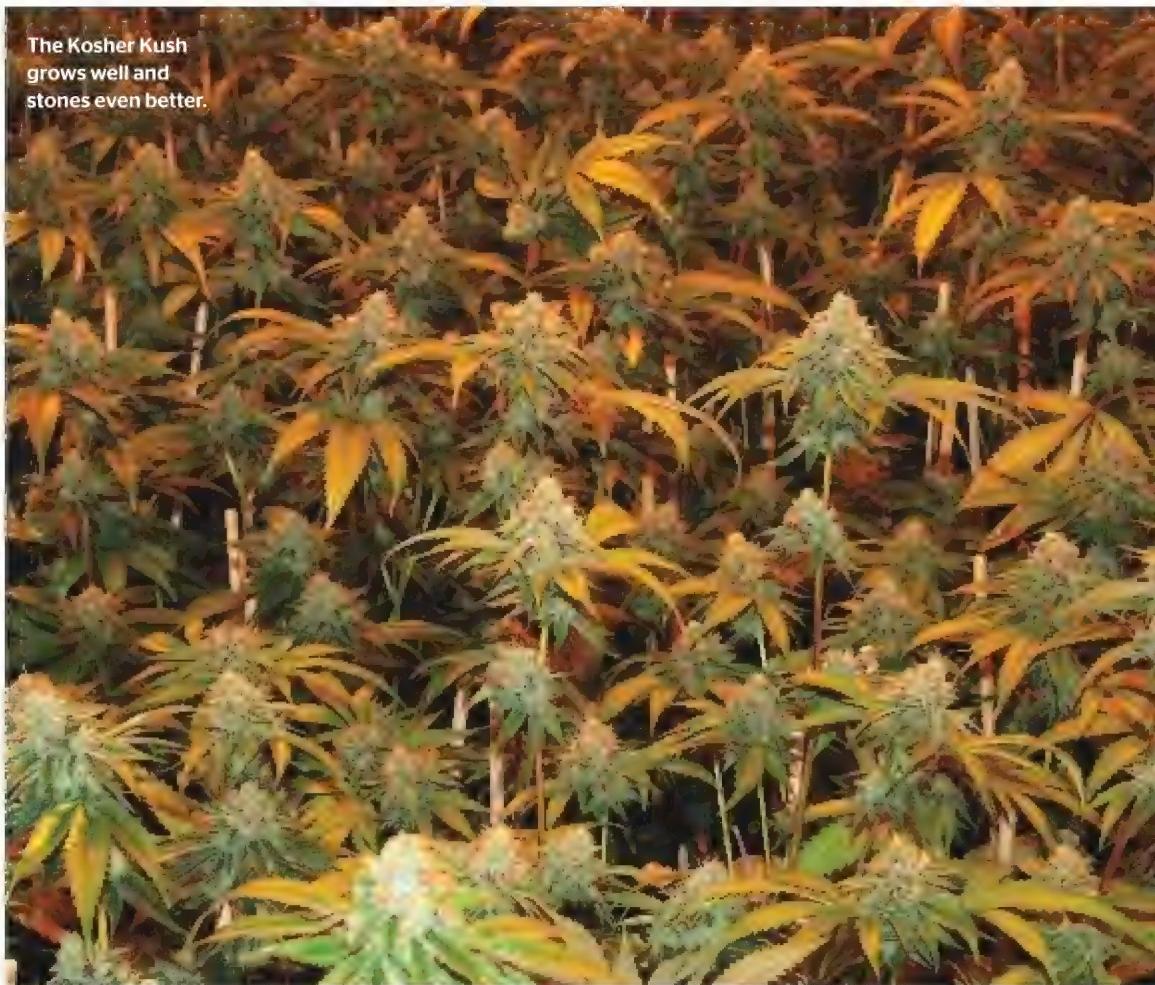
**Kosher Kush**

DNA Genetics

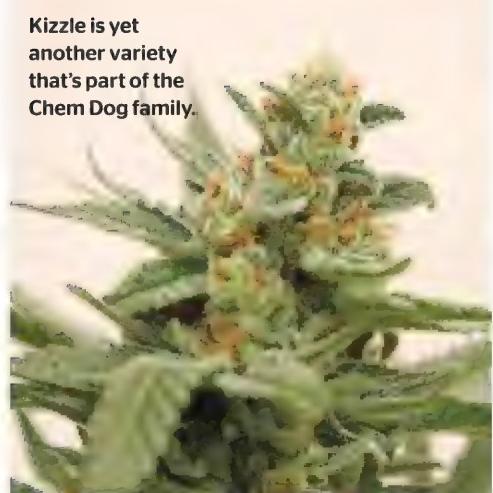
24th Annual Cannabis Cup

The Kosher Kush made its public debut at the 2010 HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam, taking home first place in the *Indica* Cup. The boys at DNA Genetics brought her back in 2011 to defend the title, and she did not disappoint, taking home first place in the *Indica* Cup again. On top of that, the Kosher Kush had the highest potency of any strain entered this past year in Amsterdam. It's no wonder the Kosher has been added to DNA's top-shelf stock in their coveted Reserva Privada lineup.

More than 31 strains tested with 20% THC or more at the 2011 HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cups. Twenty-two of them (or 71 percent) came from the Chem Dog family lineage, including OGs, Diesels and many other "Kush" varieties.



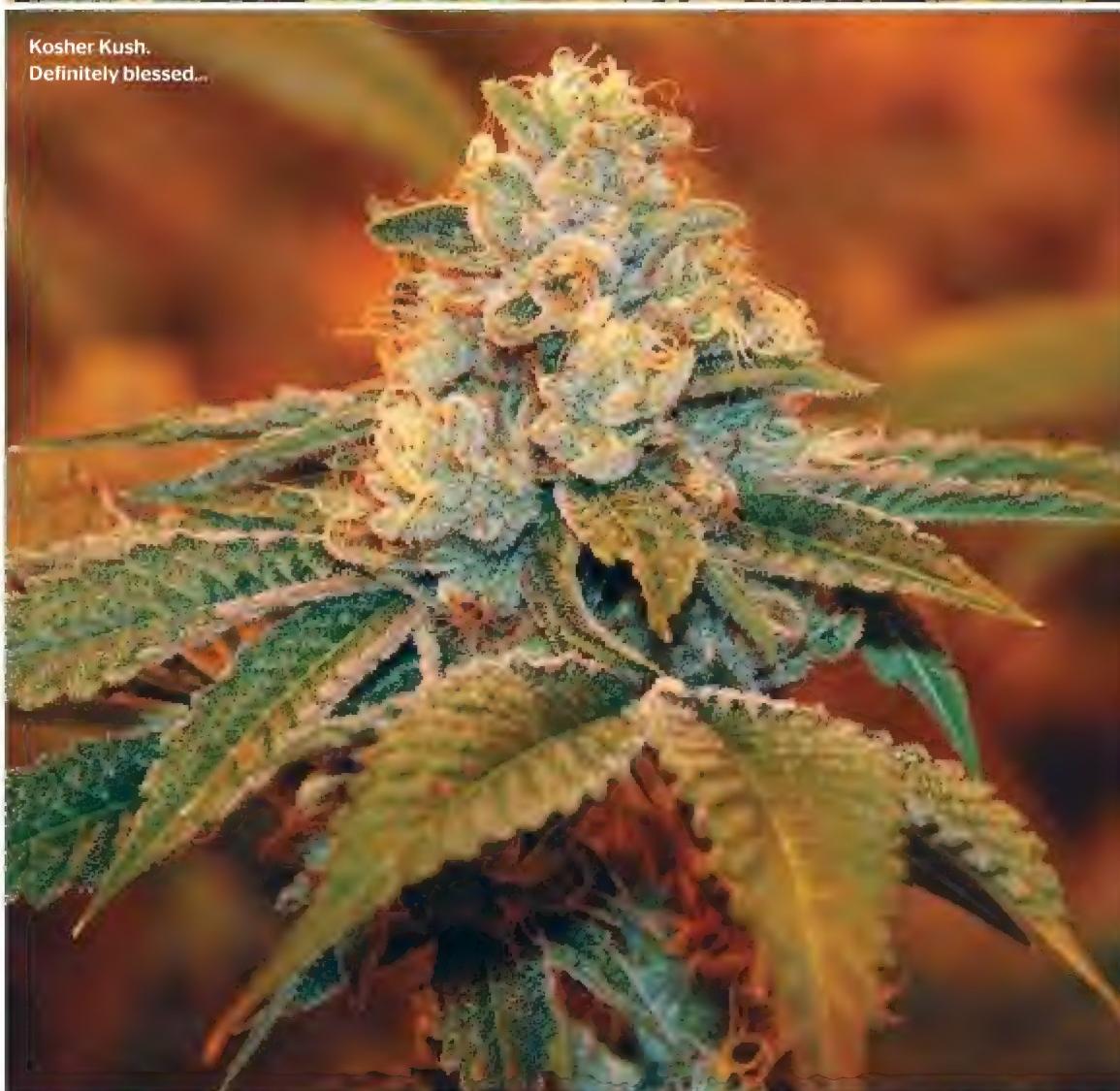
Kosher Kush.
Definitely blessed...

**Kizzle**

The Cannasseur

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

Another potent entry in the 2011 Denver Cup (and a connoisseur's blend for sure), this unique hybrid of a female OG Kush and a male Super Silver Haze ('99) smokes like a *sativa* (more than 70% dominant) and keeps you high for hours. With a THC level over 22%, she rounds out our crop of the Elite Eight in 2011. We're expecting great things from this Colorado-based breeder and dispensary in the not-too-distant future.



BEST OF THE REST

Sativas

Dr. Grinspoon, 21.87% THC

Barney's Farm

24th Annual Cannabis Cup

No strains from the big daddy of cannabis events, the HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam, cracked the Elite Eight, but this one sure came close—and she's from the seed masters at Barney's Farm. The reigning Cannabis Cup champion, Barney's Coffeeshop released Dr. Grinspoon in 2009 (via their sister seed company, Barney's Farm) to honor the Harvard professor and author of *Marihuana Reconsidered* and *Marijuana: The Forbidden Medicine*, who has fought valiantly for medical marijuana and users' rights. A super-sativa, the Grinspoon takes a long time to flower (95 days), grows tall and lanky, and has a truly superb high.

Blue Dream, 20.75% THC

Good Chemistry

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

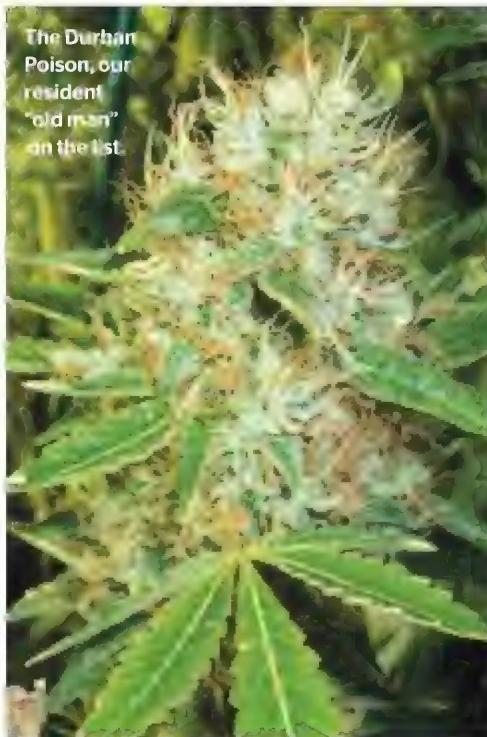
Another extremely popular US strain, this Blue Dream was done right (once again) at the Denver Cup and entered by the Good Chemistry dispensary. Showing how important good grow technique is, this entry almost hit 21% THC, whereas many other Blue Dream entries across all four Cups in 2011 fell short of the 20% mark. A simple cross of the beloved Blueberry and a straight-up Haze, the Blue Dream can exhibit various phenotypes in her psychoactive effects, some smoking as *sativa*-dominant and others bringing a more balanced, hybridized high.

Gold Haze, 20.51% THC

Devil's Harvest Seed Company

24th Annual Cannabis Cup

One of the latest up-and-coming seed companies in Amsterdam, the team at Devil's Harvest is itching to grab their first Cup, and with strains like Gold Haze and T-Light (a.k.a. Strawberry Sour Diesel), which were both entered in the 2011 Cannabis Cup, it's just a matter of time before they take one home. The Gold Haze, a nine-week pheno of the legendary Amnesia Haze, shows the crew's prowess as big-time indoor cultivators, as they got the old-school strain into the upper stratosphere of potency, rocking it at more than 20% THC—something definitely not easy to do with her. Look for more big things from Devil's Harvest at the 2012 Cannabis Cup.



Durban Poison, 20.16% THC

Highland Health

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

Everyone at the HIGH TIMES office gets super-stoked whenever we see landrace genetics—and when those heirloom strains are grown well and top out at over 20% THC, as with this entry from Highland Health at the 2011 Denver Cup, well, it gives us chills. The old-school Durban Poison is as good as it gets when done right. One has to wonder, given the strain's history and the fact that this entry came from Denver, if altitude played a part in how well it turned out.



Indicas

Larry OG Kush, 21.46% THC

The Cali Connection

San Francisco Medical Cannabis Cup

If you're an aficionado of fine cannabis, the Cali Connection should be a household name to you by now—especially if you're also a gardener! That's because these guys don't mess around when it comes to their seed lines, and they also boast one of the best collections of rare and original genetics from the Chem Dog family lineage. The Larry OG strain was entered in our 2011 San Francisco Cup and has never appeared in any HIGH TIMES Cup event before this (even though the Larry has made an appearance or two at our NYC offices). Not only is Larry one of our best-tasting friends right now, but when she's (he's?) done right (as was the case here, breaking 21% THC), Larry is welcome anywhere we go.

LA Confidential, 20.72% THC

420 Wellness

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

An excellent entry from one of Denver's finest clinics, 420 Wellness—add to it killer genes courtesy of DNA Genetics and you have some strong sinsemilla. Incidentally, Snoop Dogg just told one of HT's editors that the LA Confidential is one of his favorite all-time strains, especially when he's overseas in Amsterdam. He went on to say that he was proud it came from Cali, where "both the mom and dad came from." Looks like Snoop knows his weed!

Diamond Girl, 20.12% THC

The Green House Seed Company

24th Annual Cannabis Cup

Green House Seeds, perennial Cannabis Cup winners and world-renowned breeders, came through at the 2011 Cup in Amsterdam with a brand-new strain that topped the charts for potency in the seed company *indica* category. But that was no surprise, since they've been doing it for years. What was a surprise was the Diamond Girl's lineage: an Early Pearl mother crossed with a Skunk x Northern Lights father. In a word, sexy!

Jedi OG, 20.01% THC

The Ant Farm

Detroit Medical Cannabis Cup

Entered by the Ant Farm in our 2011 Detroit Cup, the Jedi OG was the only strain in the competition to exceed 20% percent THC (sorry, Michigan). Still,

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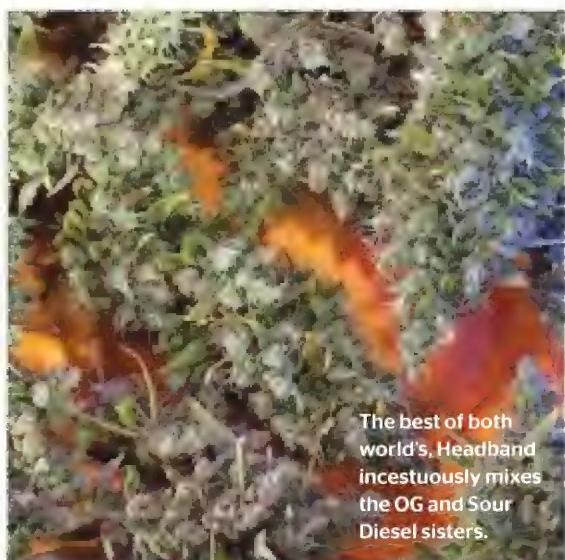


Indicas, Sativas and Hybrids

People always ask us what exactly constitutes a *sativa* or an *indica* versus a hybrid strain. After all, with the exception of true landrace strains, there aren't many 100 percent *sativas* or *indicas* out there, which means that most strains, technically speaking, are hybrids. This one's a tough call, but HIGH TIMES considers something a *sativa* or an *indica* if it's at least 70% (or more) in either category.

We use lineage to determine this, as well as how the cannabis smokes. If those two parameters are at odds—for example, if the lineage shows her as *indica*-dominant, but she smokes like a *sativa*—we ask the folks who entered it to change the name of the entry so as to avoid confusion (both for ourselves and the general public), as well as to highlight the fact that it's most likely a mutant phenotype.

» that doesn't mean there wasn't plenty of excellent herb in Detroit last September—the breeders up there are creative, and we saw a few up-and-coming seed companies that we know will be making a big splash in the next few years, most notably New World Seeds with their prize-winning *sativa*, the Obamanator (a cross of a Kenyan landrace and a pure Hawaiian that came in close at 18.70% THC).



Hybrids

Bio Diesel, 21.63% THC

Denver Relief

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

There's a lot of great things going on with this bud. For starters, she was organically grown, which helps kick up the flavor a notch, especially when one of the parents is the fabled East Coast Sour Diesel, known as one of the best-tasting herbs on the planet. Then you take the East Coast Sour Diesel (Chem Dog x Mass Super Skunk) and cross her with a nice Sensi Star phenotype and you get Bio Diesel, with top-tier flavor and just about 22% THC...wow.

Karma's Headband, 21.54% THC

Karmaceuticals

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

This variation on the original Headband adds Master Kush to the mix (OG Kush x Master Kush x Sour Diesel) with some seriously potent results. Karma's Headband didn't win anything at the Denver Cup, but she did quite well in the lab reports.

OG Kush, 20.11% THC

D&M Compassion Center

San Francisco Medical Cannabis Cup

It takes real cojones to enter a popular strain like OG Kush, for a few reasons. First, with a prolific clone strain such as the OG, a grower needs to be sure it's the real-deal cut. Next, the grower needs to know they did her right in the garden, because everyone knows what a good OG should look, taste and—most importantly—feel like. This one felt like 20% THC.

Chem Dog Biodiesel, 20.81% THC

Broadway Wellness

Denver Medical Cannabis Cup

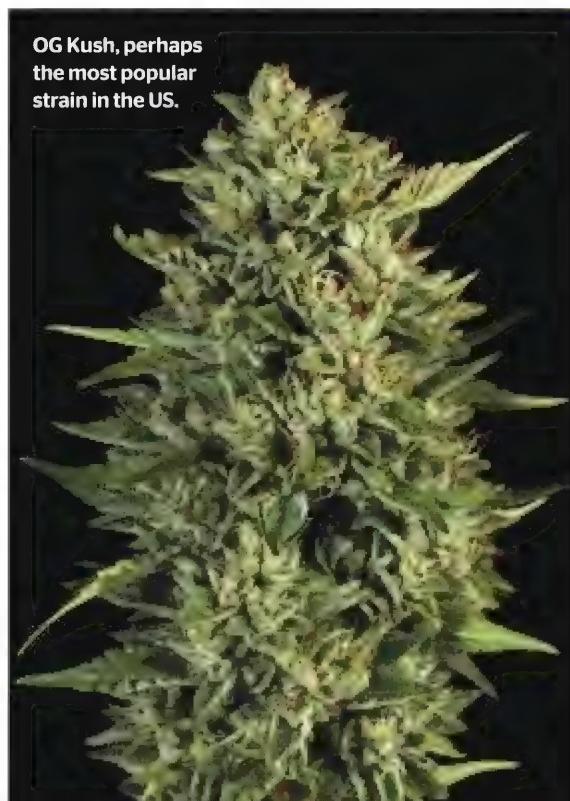
This one should be named "Candy Headbanger" because she tastes so sweet—and then you get banged in the head! The lineage on this one: (F1 Sensi Star x S1 Sour Diesel) x Chem Dog. Go ahead, read it again...The Dog gives her a potent kick, while the Star and Diesel sugar her up. God bless you, Denver.

Dead Head OG, 20.08% THC

The Cali Connection

24th Annual Cannabis Cup

We're going to keep this as short as possible: OMG! A Chem '91 x San Fernando Valley OG (an F6). Strong. Stinky. If you grow, get these seeds now—you will not regret it. If you don't grow, good luck finding the buds. Absolutely killer. ✨



Funky Facts

Surprisingly enough, most of the strains in this article did not win a Cup in their respective HIGH TIMES Cup competitions (only four of the 24 strains listed in this article took home Cups). The average THC potency of Cannabis Cup winners usually ranges from 16% to 18% THC.

Wondering what the weakest strains ever entered test at? Well, without divulging their origins and embarrassing any good friends, we'll just say that in each city where we held Cups in 2011, the least-potent pot hovered around 7% THC. Doh!

Some people ask if stronger potency means stronger aroma or flavor. As much as we'd like to answer this question with a definitive yes or no, we can't. Our guess would be "YES!"—but, to be fair, the only true way to quantitatively measure these categories would be to get lab results for the various terpenes and essential oils, which help create the real essence of the flower, and then correlate those numbers with our THC readouts. We are on the hunt to find a lab that is willing and able to supply these numbers for us. Any takers?

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B-Real wields the Cypress Hill Excalibur, a ROOR masterpiece which stands taller than six feet. (Opposite page) ROOR's special edition, Rasta-themed "Ziggy" mouthpiece features teardrops and a polished logo flame; The "Vapor" guarantees optimized vaporization with its high-quality, taste-neutral glass.

THE OFFICE

ROOR CROWD

Mention the name “ROOR” and the international cannabis community cheers—with good reason. This German glass smokeware company has produced the finest paraphernalia in the industry for nearly 20 years. By Dan Skye



Marc Birzle, Martin's son, shapes a tube on the lathe at ROOR headquarters in Frankenthal, Germany.



So many factors have contributed to the proliferation of pot culture: Jack Herer's seminal book on cannabis, *The Emperor Wears No Clothes*, galvanized a generation of activists. The rise of hip-hop and its unabashed anthems to smoking dank weed stoked the ganja fires as well. Then the Internet arrived, and computers soon linked the marijuana community.

For Martin Birzle, the founder of the ROOR glass company in Frankenthal, Germany, the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 was pivotal. "Suddenly, people became awake," he says. "And when Jack's book was published in Germany in 1993, people began organizing. Suddenly, people were recognizing that cannabis was good. There was new energy everywhere."

The cannabis revolution certainly changed Martin's life. Like many young people, he found deciding what to do after high school a daunting task: The big, wide world beckons, but the sheer magnitude of choosing a path can render one immobile. "I thought about what to do in life," he recalls. "All of my friends were going to the university to study, but I knew I just wanted to have a good life. University meant too much theory—thinking and

writing, thinking and writing; it wasn't what I was looking for."

Instead, he enrolled in a three-year program at a state-run school for glass-making, where students could study the art of grinding glass, engraving glass, creating stained glass or the scientific process of glassblowing. He completed his studies in 1985. At the time, Martin

I combined my knowledge of the scientific with what I learned in the bong industry, where there were no standards.

recalls, "there were no headshops in Germany, no smoking culture, no international contacts to be had. We had only a beer-and-alcohol culture. Having a bong in those days was pretty illegal—highly illegal. Everybody asked me, 'What are you going to do with that?'"

For five years, he focused on the arts and crafts market, producing Christmas merchandise, bowls and lamps, but also making small glass pipes for friends. In the early '90s, some older "hippie friends" returned from their travels in India, Nepal and Afghanistan with native water pipes in their possession. Martin admired the

design, but he also recognized the inherent danger of using them: "If you smoke once, you can't clean it anymore. I knew that glass was ideal from a legal situation—a clean bong isn't illegal."

As the '90s got firmly underway, Germany's counterculture found its footing. Smoke-ins were organized, cannabis cultivation magazines started to appear—and when Jack Herer's book was translated into German, selling hundreds of thousands of copies, a marketplace for quality paraphernalia emerged.

"But ROOR didn't happen overnight," Martin says. "After the Berlin Wall fell, Germany witnessed a movement. Suddenly, there was a lot of production in the East, and the market was flooded with cheap glass and art products."

He points to a groundbreaking article published in 1995 by *Der Spiegel*, Europe's top news magazine, as his turning point. It openly called for a fresh appraisal of cannabis, and it also profiled the CannaBusiness trade show, the first in Europe where cannabis-related companies could convene for business exchange. Martin made sure he attended the next one, and the response to his pipes was overwhelming. The foundation for ROOR had been laid.

The name "ROOR" is a tricky acronym:



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It's derived from a textbook, *The Biology of MicROORGanisms*, from which the central letters for "micROORGanism" were lifted. "ROOR" and *rohr* are pronounced the same, but for Germans, *Roehr* means a glass, copper or plastic conduit or tubing that allows for the flow of gas or water. Fifteen years after ROOR's founding, the name is now celebrated for the elite water pipes the company produces and its dedication to the highest industry standards.

"In the early days," Martin says, "I did the research and development myself. I found out that when you make a bigger bong, it doesn't necessarily make smoking better. I combined my knowledge of the scientific with what I learned in the bong industry, where there were no standards. It's not the glass; it's how you work it. You get all the theory—the background of glass, the parts of it, how it's chemically made and what it's resistant to, the best ways to work with it, and ways that are not so good to work with it. It's like playing a musical instrument: The more exercise you have, the more you like it and the better you get."

Suffice it to say that Martin Birzle is a virtuoso. ROOR products are equally known for their sleek, stylish design, their simplicity and their unfailing integrity. Furthermore, Martin has determined the proper ratio of air volume to water level for each piece. ROOR bongs are classical cylinders and come in a variety of sizes and wall thickness, with perfectly fitted glass-on-glass sleeves and bowls. Additionally, ROOR markets an array of smoking accessories such as the Phunk Feel Tips (glass filters for joints, boasting the company's typical precision). ROOR has also entered the vaporizer market and has just branded its own line of cannabis seeds.

Martin oversees an operation that employs 22 people and showcases its products in a flagship store based in Amsterdam. About a third of his business takes place in the US, though he admits that customs seizures make a considerable dent in commerce. Most disturbing is the glut of ROOR knockoffs on the market these days: Chinese manufacturers have been supplying cheap imitations to headshops, while some American retailers have resorted to slapping counterfeit ROOR decals on the sides of much-inferior products. Because there are limited legal avenues to stop this, ROOR has created an authorized dealers list on their website so customers can be sure their piece is authentic. In Germany, however, bongs—as long as they're clean—are legal.



"The situation in Germany is weird," he says. "It's absolutely legal to manufacture, sell, even to smoke out of one—because according to the law, you're allowed to smoke. But you're not allowed to purchase, own or give cannabis as a gift. You can be punished, but not for inhaling it—that's the law in Germany. And the pipe is 100 percent legal. Problems arise when police do a home search or enter shops or private rooms and find a bong with attachments. They analyze it in the laboratory, and then they find THC residue. You're asked where you bought it, how often you buy and with whom you smoke. People start talking. Eventually, police find some grams or a scale. Then you get a fine, and sometimes you're no longer allowed to do a profession like attorney, doctor or teacher. It's in your records."

Every country, apparently, has its own unique way to harass marijuana smokers. Regardless, the desire of stoners worldwide to own a ROOR piece continues unabated. To that end, Martin has introduced ROOR Tech to his product line designed to be an expression of the American smoking experience.

"The traditional line of ROOR has always stood as the very finest," he says. "We're bringing those standards to our new line in America. The energy in America is always a changing wind. Our US team has a deep understanding of the new age American smoking experience. Through their innovations in filtration systems they're blazing a path for the US market.

"I'm in the middle of building ROOR up," he continues. "We work together with the retailers, which make them feel special. Put yourself in a customer's situation: You have a \$1,000 bong, a very nice piece. Your downstem breaks, so you go to your favorite烟 shop, and they say, 'Here, we have it.' You think: 'That's a fucking good shop!' And you want it right now, when you're at the shop.

"We want to bring the ROOR quality and philosophy to all segments of our business," Martin concludes in summation. "We want to make smoking marijuana the most enjoyable experience possible." 🌿

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From top: Martin (center) with select members of his crew; custom "Ziggy" bowl with twisted marble embedding and the ROOR anti-rolling dot; Sophia is one of ROOR's top artists.



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Breaking Down the Medicinal Value of Sativas

In today's age of medical marijuana, government propaganda is all but dead. The more you know about your medicine, the more effective it can be. *By Greg Green*



The scientific evidence for the medicinal value of cannabis is so well documented in the peer-reviewed literature that the case for cannabis as medicine is now firmly established. As a result, if someone says that cannabis medicine is a joke, the proper 21st century reply is: "You are welcome to your unsupported opinion, but the scientific evidence for cannabis as medicine is overwhelming." Referring that person to Google Scholar—a database of scientific, peer-reviewed articles that constitutes the best reference for anyone ignorant on this subject—will return over 50,000 peer-reviewed articles alone. The first couple hundred scientific papers address the topic directly. All of them confirm that, yes, cannabis is a medicine. For the naysayers, it is simply *game over*.

Cannabis Types

These days, we are more concerned with *how* cannabis works as medicine and what the various treatment types and options are. Also, many medical users wish to be fully self-sufficient; this means not obtaining their medical marijuana by any other means except cultivating and preparing it themselves. For many first-time users, however, questions arise with respect to which type of cannabis they need to grow. To answer that question, we must first understand that cannabis is a genus of its own in the plant kingdom. Its taxonomic nomenclature (or scientific name) is actually *Cannabis sativa* L., which (confusingly enough, for newcomers) has three distinct species: *Cannabis sativa*, *Cannabis indica* and *Cannabis ruderalis*.

However, there are really only two types to choose from when growing

Cinderella 99





Best of both worlds; *indica* growing in the foreground with a giant *sativa* flowering behind.

cannabis for medicine, *indica* or *sativa* (*ruderaleis* is a hardy, humpy, low-potency species not typically grown for ingestion), and both are grown quite differently and with different results. So the medical user must first decide which type is going to be more beneficial. Fortunately, they don't really have to become an expert on the ins and outs of cannabis botany or biochemistry to find the right type for them: Simply sampling both—and different varieties of each—can be enough. Many medical marijuana outlets have plenty of samples to choose from, so when the medical user finds the strain they need, they can then begin to examine their self-sufficiency options with that strain, assuming it's available in seed or clone form.

Medical Marijuana Basics

For this article, we shall focus on *sativas*, which are pretty much the iconic type of cannabis that we see in all those marijuana-leaf media images. For all its popularity as an icon, however, it's actually the type of cannabis that most home growers have very little experience with—especially the pure type.

You've undoubtedly heard of *sativas* such as Cambodian, Haze or Thai, but you may not know that these are some of the most difficult strains to grow. So if a medical user wants to be self-sufficient and needs a pure *sativa*, they'll be undertaking a much more specialized and complicated home grow than someone who chooses an *indica*. Sometimes a mostly *sativa* hybrid (i.e., a plant with

both *sativa* and *indica* genes) may be sufficient, and this can reduce both the difficulty and the flowering times, since such hybrids are easier to grow—but the user will have to forgo some of the *sativa* effects for the *indica* influence. So, all in all, *indica* users are at an advantage, since *indicas* grow faster and are more forgiving when it comes to growroom mistakes. *Sativa* growers, on the other hand, really need to put the work in.

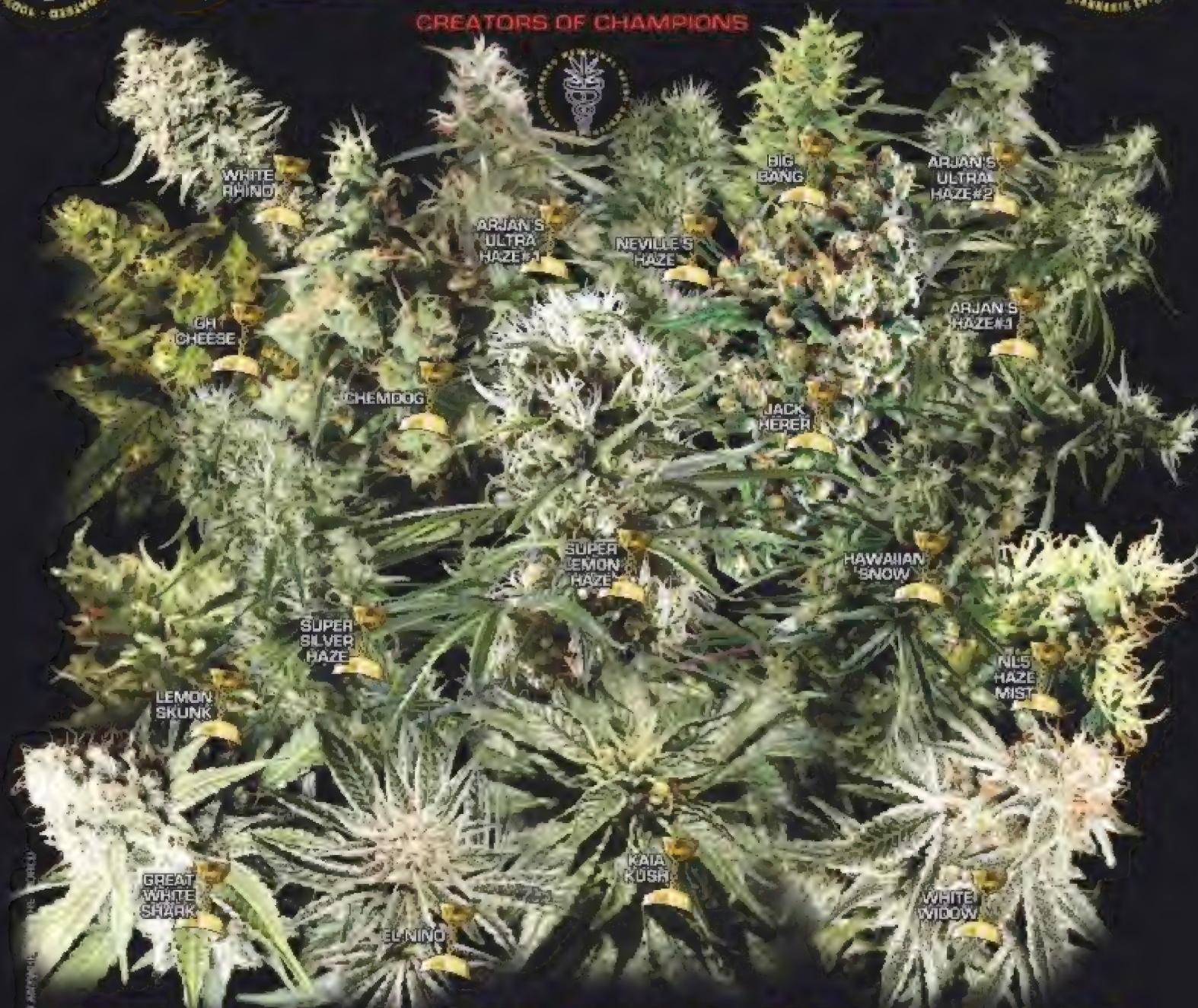
The main difference for the medical user between *indicas* and *sativas* is the plants' biochemistry, in particular the different types of active chemical compounds in cannabis, referred to as cannabinoids. There are 85 known cannabinoids in the plant, and probably many more. (The number keeps growing

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every year as new research discovers more of them.) It's not possible here to go through all of the cannabinoids and their effects on humans; however, we can talk about the primary ones, which appear in the plant in much greater quantities and largely explain the major variations in the medicinal differences between *sativas* and *indicas*. These include tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), cannabinol (CBN), cannabigerol (CBG), tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV or THV) and cannabidiol (CBD).

nonpsychoactive, it appears to be very similar to THC, and it also has a large range of medical applications, from diabetes to problems relating to the human metabolism. THCV/THV is a very popular cannabinoid with pharmaceutical companies looking to market its applications, particularly because of the practical side to its non-psychoactive yet medically valuable similarity to THC.

Cannabidiol (CBD) is the compound that has created the most excitement among medical researchers in recent

vision or sound in creative ways usually derive those benefits more from a *sativa* influence than an *indica* one.

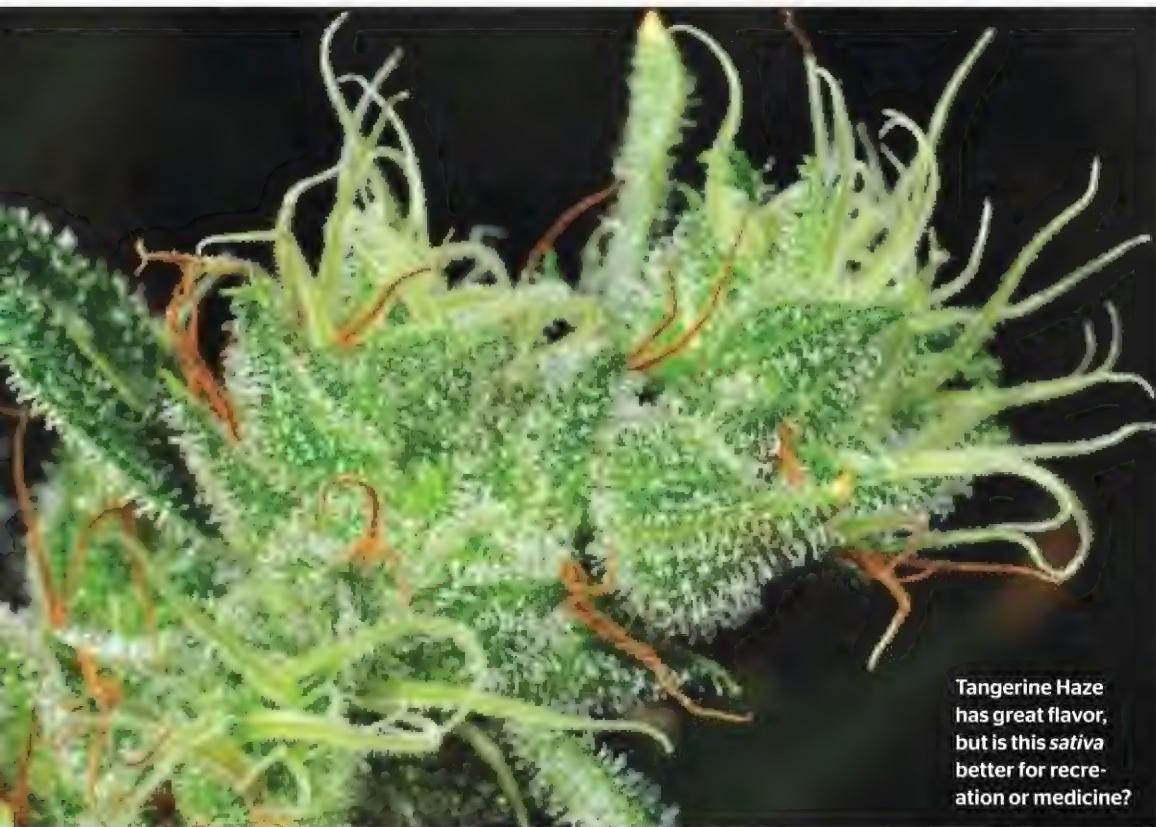
Sativas vs. Indicas

One way of understanding the distinction between *indicas* and *sativas* as medicine is by looking at the CBD-to-THC ratio. In general, *indicas* have a higher CBD-to-THC ratio, whereas *sativas* have a lower one—meaning that *indicas* are known for having higher percentages of CBD than *sativas*. For those looking to minimize the unwanted psychoactive effects of THC, that makes *indicas* an obvious choice. But if a medical user wants the psychoactive effects, then they would look to a pure *sativa* or, more likely, a *sativa*-dominant hybrid—while, in general, medical marijuana users looking for full-body, relaxing effects or relief from physical pain will turn to *indica* or *indica*-dominant hybrids, since experiments show it is highly likely that CBD is contributing to this pain inhibition.

As with anything in medicine, though, it's not always as black-and-white as this, so a caution is given in assuming that *indicas* and *sativas* always perform this way—meaning that *indicas* don't always produce a body-stone effect, and *sativas* don't always deliver an uplifting, cerebral high. Overall, it may very well turn out that *indica* strains contain a greater number of cannabinoids than *sativa* strains do. (I personally think this is very likely.) As a result, someone medicating with an *indica* strain is almost guaranteed to find the right cannabinoid that they need to help their medical problem, making it a good bet to try *indicas* before *sativas*. On the other hand, if *sativas* turn out to contain fewer cannabinoids than *indicas*, then the unwanted cannabinoids can conceivably be eliminated by choosing a *sativa*.

Benefits of *Sativas*

So what are the *sativas'* medical benefits? *Sativas* can help with psychological problems, including depression, as well as aid in encouraging activity. *Sativas* are better suited as a stimulating medicine, though they have been known to relieve some kinds of pain, including migraines. The uplifting effects of *sativas* mean that they make a good medicine to take in the mornings or during the day. However, *sativa* users need to consider if they're really the best option for evening and nighttime use, because the cerebral effects—somewhat analogous to caffeine—can keep the user awake. Certainly



Cannabinoids and Their Effects

The main effects from cannabis use are produced in the human body by the specific, membrane-bound receptors called CB1 (found mostly in the brain) and CB2 (mostly in the immune system), to which many of these cannabinoids bind. THC, for example, is used by both the CB1 and CB2 receptors, and its neuroprotective qualities ease pain in most medical marijuana users. The medicinal value of THC is wide-ranging, with new applications being found all the time.

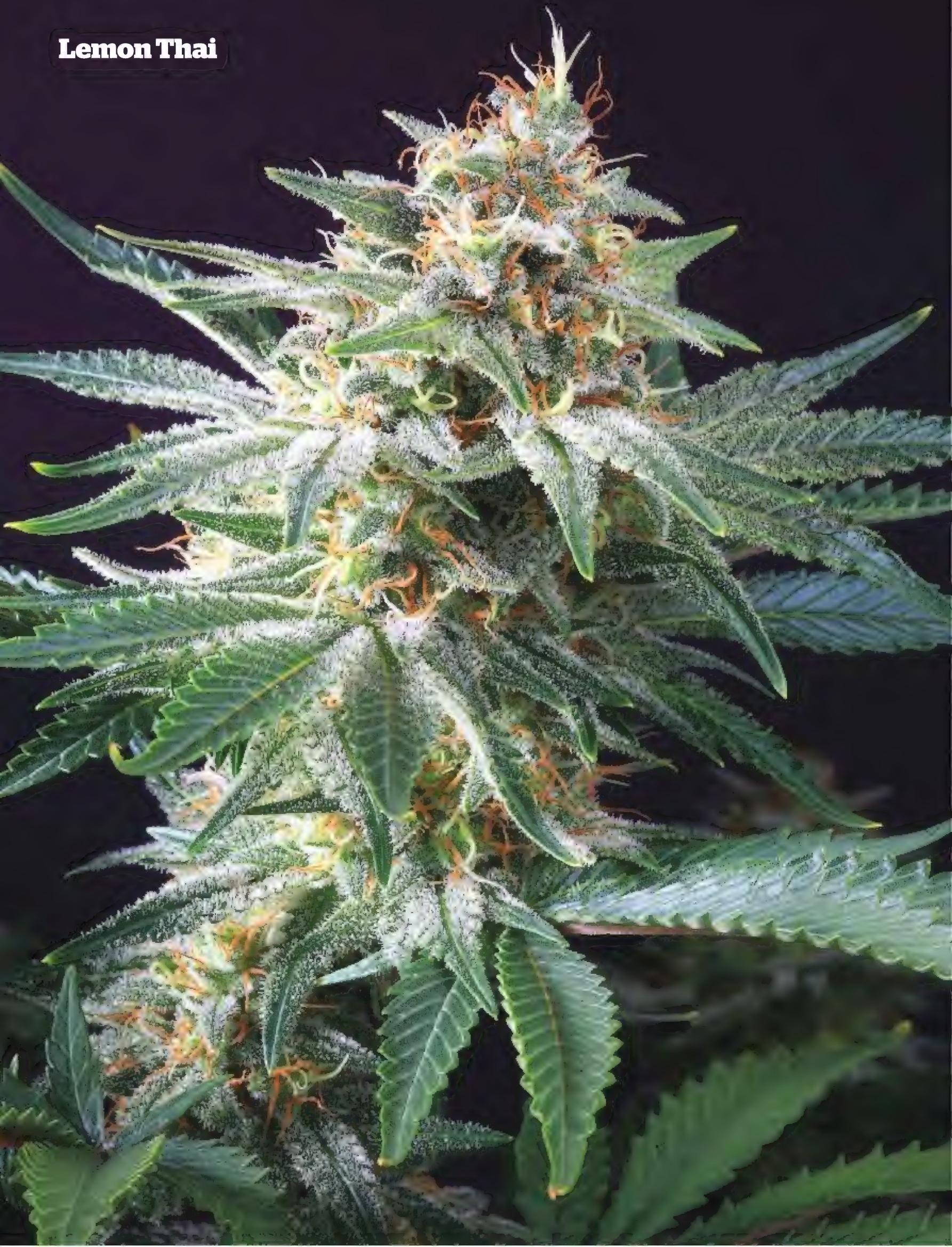
Cannabinol (CBN) is also psychoactive, but it's basically the result of THC as it degrades. CBN's effects have been described as very similar to THC, though weaker. Cannabigerol (CBG) binds to CB1 and CB2 receptors and appears to help with glaucoma and other forms of ocular pressure that need to be released.

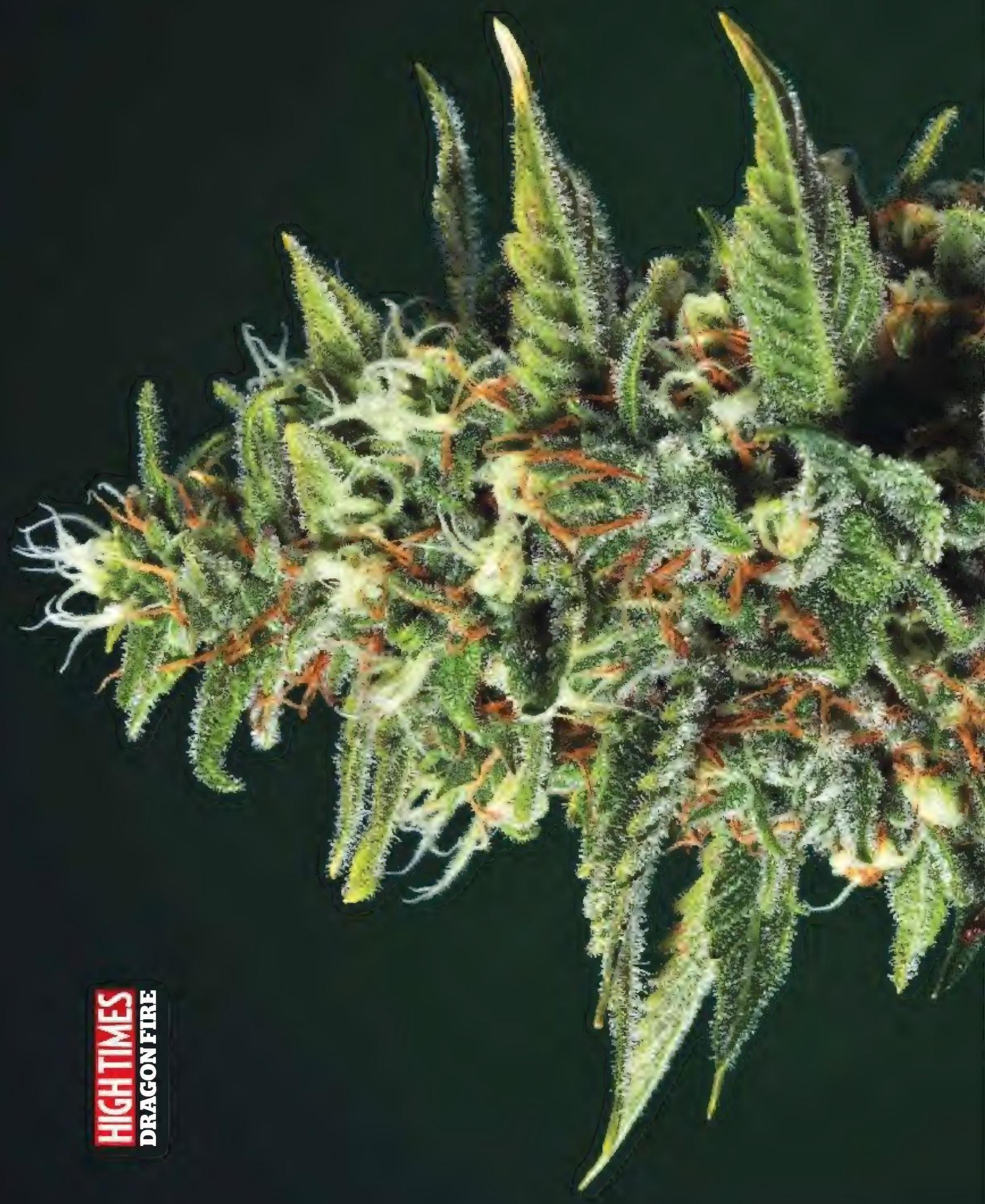
Tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV or THV) is quite interesting. While it is

years. While CBD doesn't seem to interact directly with the CB1 and CB2 receptors, it does appear to interact with other receptors in the body, producing relief from inflammation, nausea, anxiety and convulsions, among other uses. As with THC, new applications for CBD are being discovered all the time.

It's important to note that cannabidiol (CBD), while not directly psychoactive, does appear to help prevent some of the unwelcome psychological effects caused by THC. Depending on the user, these effects can range from hyperactivity to paranoia, and they can get uncomfortably intense for some people. However, for others these psychoactive effects are not unwelcome at all. In fact, the very opposite is true: They are what is needed. Some people find that *sativa* increases awareness in a positive way, even spurring creativity. Artists and musicians who have found that cannabis enhances their

Lemon Thai





HIGH TIMES
DRAGON FIRE



Mekong Haze





it still may be costly for individuals).

Medical marijuana breeders should take note of this. Grouping medical strains by type, especially chemotype, is the current trend, and in the future we will likely see every medical marijuana strain's chemotype being identified, quantified and put on the label.

Also, let's not forget what every grower knows: that harvest times, curing times and how cannabis is stored are also supremely important. For example, harvesting earlier than usual can reduce the amount of THC that degrades, and therefore an earlier harvest can give even an *indica* strain more of a cerebral high than it normally has. Likewise, curing in darkness preserves THC, while exposing cured bud to light will generally degrade THC. A strain's genetics, while important, can only take us so far; the environment will also impact how a plant grows and what its cannabinoid content will be. This is why self-sufficiency is probably the most stable way for medical users to ensure that their medicine is the same time and time again. Sharing a strain with someone else does not mean they will get the exact same results, but it should be somewhat close depending on how and where they grow it.

I always like to finish articles like this by pointing out that human cannabinoid receptors such as CB1 and CB2 are extremely interesting in that they're what convert the plant's chemical compounds into a psychoactive/medicinal experience. That there is a mutual symbiosis between cannabis plants and human beings that is "binding-site-specific" is miraculous—and monumental: It strongly implies that throughout human and cannabis evolution, there has been a historic connection between our species. Archaeological finds have unearthed the remains of early Homo sapiens with cannabis plants, cannabis seeds and cannabis-related fabrics together and intact.

Cannabis use among humans is not a new phenomenon. What is new is the failed experiment of cannabis prohibition, which was undertaken without any scientific foundation and certainly without considering the consequences. Historians will look back on cannabis prohibition as one of the great failed social experiments of all time and wonder why so many had to suffer at the hands of a few people who were badly lacking in knowledge. Science has already cleared the name of every cannabis user and prisoner—past, present and future. *

the purer varieties of *sativa* will do this, so if a *sativa* user is having trouble sleeping, then it's time to consider a more balanced *sativa/indica* hybrid as their medicine—or possibly even switching to *indica* use in the evening. This may also help reduce the amount of tolerance that the body develops toward the medicine, which is something that all medical users have to contend with—there are times when interrupting one's regular use and then restarting it later helps to combat tolerance-related problems.

The good news for medical users is that the range of *sativa* strains is growing, and there's no shortage of varieties to experiment with, including many new strains like Waipi'o Hapa (Centennial Seeds), Simbay Moon (Ganja

Seeds), K-13 Haze (Philosopher Seeds), Inferno Haze (Gage Green Genetics), Juanita la Lagrimosa (Reggae Seeds), Margoot (Green Devil Genetics), Jack O'Nesia (Karma Genetics), Kaligria (ASG Seeds), the Magician (De Sjamaan) and Mekong Haze (Delta-9 Labs), which are quickly gaining popularity in Europe and elsewhere.

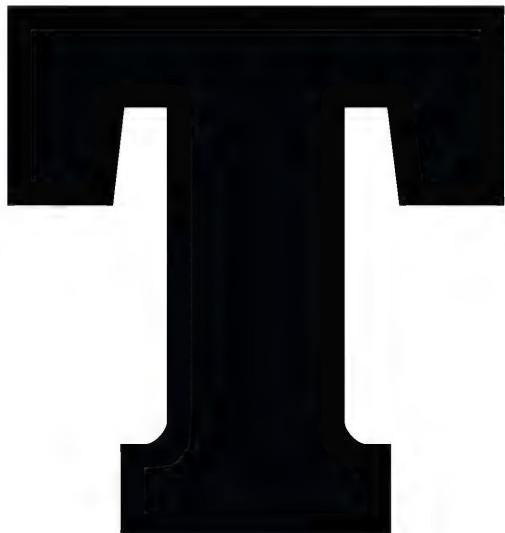
So what does the future hold for medicinal *sativas*? Essentially, more of what's already happening now: medical users becoming self-sufficient and turning to specialized strains that cater to their individual needs. Selective breeding over successive generations can change cannabinoid levels, and it's not very difficult to have a strain's cannabinoid content examined and reported (though

Requiem for an Occupation

In a corporate park in Lower Manhattan, a movement began that spread throughout the country. Now that the concept of the 99% is as familiar to Americans as the face of Tim Tebow, High Times takes a look back at the birth of Occupy Wall Street.

By Chris Simunek

Woodcuts by Stephen Lewis



The Occupation came in stages and was very confusing in the beginning. I visited Zuccotti Park the first week and saw kids not even old enough to drink standing around in their skinny jeans and Chuck Taylors, holding placards

describing their disillusionment. "Banks Got Bailed Out/We Got Sold Out." "We Are the 99%." "Sodomites Against Corporate Sodomy." Some even wore bandannas over their faces in the style of the Mexican Zapatistas. It was the natural progression from all those Che Guevera T-shirts that have been selling steadily for years. Only Che never wore a mask. Che smiled for the cameras—smiled at the people of Cuba whose revolution he propelled, smiled at the boys from Quantico whose job it was to hunt him down.

The day before my visit, the NYPD had maced a row of women who were simply exercising their constitutional right to complain. As I walked around the park, I overheard one young lady giving an impassioned interview to some journo. "Do you know what it's like? To have pepper spray in your eyes? Do you know what it feels like?" She sounded like Joni Mitchell bitching out her handlers because they served her green tea instead of chai. You say you want a revolution? "You gotta pay your dues if you want to sing the blues," reads the Book of Ringo.

The message of the Occupy crowd—that 99 percent of the American people are getting screwed like an altar boy at a seminary meth party—is hard to dispute. I've come to terms with the fact that my golden years are going to look like something out of *Dawn of the Dead*. I've already saved the \$300 I'll need for my retirement—\$50 for the motel room, \$20 for the bottle, \$150 for the shotgun and the rest to tip the maid.

The most frustrating part of the Zuccotti scene were the General Assemblies and the whole "mic check" method of communication, where one person shouts out a line and the crowd repeats it so that, theoretically, everyone gets to hear what is said. Not for nothing, but a couple bullhorns would have really moved things along. When a consensus was needed on a point, like whether or not they should all run down to





Wall Street and get arrested, people in agreement were supposed to twinkle their fingers in the air like they were spreading fairy dust. Now, if your goal is to take down an evil empire, are you going to fight like a Jedi, or are you going to dick around like a bunch of Ewoks?

"This is what democracy looks like!"

Someone throw a rock already.

But like I said at the beginning, the Occupation came in stages, and if you've ever seen one, you know that a birth is a gruesome thing to watch.

Then came the morning of October 14, when *Gruppenführer* Bloomberg first threatened to clear Zuccotti Park, supposedly "so it could be cleaned." For those of you not from New York and perhaps unfamiliar with our mayor, Michael Bloomberg, the

19.5-Billion-Dollar Man, he is a person who embodies the "1%" the way Bullwinkle embodies the talking moose. Disparity of wealth is a noble thing to fight, but you can't exactly punch it in the face. So when *Herr* Bloomberg said he was sending his stormtroopers down to clear the park, I knew the Occupy Wall Street folks would go down swinging.

In the pre-dawn morning, I rode my bike from my Lower East Side apartment along South Street toward Zuccotti, passing by the Chinese folks who assemble at daybreak beneath the FDR Drive to practice *t'ai chi ch'u'an*, the "supreme ultimate fist." Like warrior wraiths, they twisted in the carbon monoxide, confronting their invisible enemies in movements so slow that they appeared dislodged from the passing of time. The Chinese know the price of revolution.

If your goal is to take down an evil empire, are you going to fight like a Jedi, or are you going to dick around like a bunch of Ewoks?

Historians are still arguing over the body count, but it's believed that Mao Zedong's policies caused the deaths of between 40 to 70 million of his people after the Chinese Revolution. He was the most successful revolutionary of the 20th century, and today his smiling face appears on every banknote of the *renminbi*, "the people's money." Across China, Mao smiles from the face of those bills at the descendants of those who died under his reign, and in America, he smiles from 7.56 trillion of those notes directly at the imperialists who borrowed them. The Chairman was nobody's fool.

Turning up Liberty Street, I was confronted after a few blocks by a cacophonous mob of protestors. The good news was that Czar Bloomberg had backed down, the park clearing was called off, and the Occupy folks wanted to celebrate their victory by marching on Wall Street. I followed several hundred of them down Broadway, banging drums and chanting, "Whose streets? Our streets!" until they hit Bowling Green and were in spitting distance of Wall Street's bronze Charging Bull.

Like drunken matadors, they lunged at the beast, which was being guarded by less than a dozen nervous-looking cops. A shoving match ensued and the chant changed to, "All day, all week, occupy Wall Street!" Overhead, helicopters whirled in the gray light of the new day and pigeons soared in formation. Backup arrived—a phalanx of police on scooters wearing shiny helmets and body armor, trying to get the protestors onto the sidewalk and out of the way of the wheels and axles of progress. There was confusion as the crowd marched through the cavernous streets hunting for an entrance to Wall. Inside the window of Café Bravo, a red digital ticker invited everyone to "Create your own sandwich or wrap...Create your own salad...Create your own..."



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CE STANDARD.

In the midst of the agglomeration, a brass marching band appeared. The Rude Mechanical Orchestra bleated "We Shall Overcome" through reeds and horns. The twisting parade met its match at Water Street, where cops started tackling and zip-tying the hands of protestors, much to the shock of people standing in line outside the Verizon store to buy the new iPhone 4S.

A cop ran over a kid with his scooter, and the OWS folks had a real problem with that.

"We are pacifists!" someone shouted.

A Manson-eyed freak picked up a garbage can and started emptying it onto the cops, protestors and journalists who were crowded around the kid who'd been

to buy some ammo.

"Experience in the class struggle in the era of imperialism teaches us that it is only by the power of the gun that the working class and the laboring masses can defeat the armed bourgeoisie and landlords," he wrote in his *Little Red Book*. "In this sense we may say that only with guns can the whole world be transformed."

After Ayatollah Bloomberg's October capitulation, the Occupation metamorphosed from its larval stage into its short-but-brilliant chrysalis phase. No longer did it sleep unsheltered beneath the New York night. Tarps, tents and improvised structures had overtaken

Penthouse, part of a larger community named Swag City. Passing around a joint, I spoke with a punk named Razz, a National Guardsman who went by the moniker Captain America and a young, self-proclaimed hustler named Hairo Gonzalez (a.k.a. "Hy-dro, the People's Hero"). Hy-dro hailed from Morningside Heights and, along with his brethren, he had a vision of a positive brigade, a thinking man's army that would deal with the security problems that arise when a leaderless society undergoes a sudden swelling of its ranks. They called themselves the Gentlemen.

"Our job is to protect, serve and secure the people here," Hy-dro said. "We built Swag City because we didn't want people to get raped, we didn't want people to get their stuff stolen, we didn't want people to go hungry. We represent the 100%. It's not about the 99% versus the 1%. We want to send a message of unity: It doesn't matter where you're from, it doesn't matter who you are, it doesn't matter what you did in your past—it's all about what we're going to do now to change the world. And to lead by example, to show the world that, yes, we can change as a society. All we have to do is do the right thing."

Hanging out with the Gentlemen that day digging the noise, the drums, the breakdancing, the open-air drug use, I knew I was soon going to miss the Occupation. Zuccotti was a lawless state in the middle of the biggest city in America. I hadn't seen anything like it in New York since Tompkins Square Park before the riots. There was that same feeling—that this was the peace at the eye of the hurricane, and that all of the energy and ingenuity and vision that went into building this sanctuary would be matched in the end by the will and furor of those who would come to tear it down.

Me and my friends, we was sleeping and I woke up to a ruckus, and we say, 'Wake your boyfriend up! Wake up!' We got dressed and, as soon as we come out, we see a whole lot of cops trying to come in the park—they weren't coming in yet, but they was doing all sorts of stuff. We started to leave and they kept pushing a lot of people from where McDonald's is at, all the way up Broadway, to the church and so on. They started putting tear gas here—it was just reckless, man. It was like...they killed two puppies. They were macing the tents and everything, and there was puppies in them. We had



After Ayatollah Bloomberg's October capitulation, the Occupation metamorphosed from its larval stage into its short-but-brilliant chrysalis phase.

hit. Imagine their surprise when they looked up at the shower of dirty napkins, soda cans, chicken bones and little bags of dogshit that had been deposited by responsible pet owners. Castigated by his fellow protestors, the freak just laughed. He was a young man who had grown into the mistakes he'd made in his life and was not ashamed to make more.

I can watch cops and lefties duke it out in the street all day long and never really get tired of it, but my stomach was growling, so I got back on my bike and headed toward Mott Street, hoping that Wo Hop was open so I could get a bowl of wonton soup. Riding through Chinatown with its sidewalks crowded with bodies and all its funky smells, I wondered what Mao's reaction would have been to the Occupy movement and its notion of a peaceful class war. He might have appreciated the anti-capitalist rhetoric, but his advice would have been

the park, an intricate web of cocoons within which the revolutionary pupa gestated. The caliber of folks you met around the park had changed as well. As fall ebbed into winter, the fair-weather revolutionaries were replaced by a hardened cast of activists, anarchists, urban kids, street people, '60s radicals, winos and drug cases. At jails and homeless shelters across the city, word was out about the party in Zuccotti—free food, a place to crash and pretty girls who believe you are a victim of the state. It added an edge. Mixed in with the drum circle and the General Assemblies were a few fights and sexual assaults, and a kid who famously overdosed on Robitussin. Headlines aside, Zuccotti was still safer than your average 49ers game.

I hooked up with a group of New Yorkers who lived in a multi-story structure built from tarps, discarded furniture and wooden shipping pallets called the

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"There was one lady that came out of booking, her face was all beat up, like...her whole face was beat up. It was wild horrible—rubber bullets on tents and everything."

a mother dog, and they maced the dog just for walking. It was just all fucked up. They started beating up on people, arresting them, everything. We went to Foley Square so we can support the people that was in jail and everything. There was one lady that came out of booking, her face was all beat up, like...her whole face was beat up. It was wild horrible—rubber bullets on tents and everything. My half-brother got shot in his thigh. We was just going crazy. They kept pushing the barricades in; they made an old man drop and everything. Everything was happening too fast, and it went from one o'clock to three. My whole head is going up the wall—I don't even know what to say anymore. There's a whole lot of emotions going. I can't even say what it is."

That's the raid as it was described to me by Jonathan, a native of Bedford-Stuyvesant, a friend of Hy-dro's who'd been living in the park for the past seven weeks.

"Was it worth it?" I asked him.

"I believe it was worth it," Jonathan said. "Us protesting...it was worth it."

I'd met up with Hy-dro in Zuccotti the

had grown wings and split.

I talked to Andre Medina from the Bronx, "Tigger" as he was known among the Gentlemen. Tigger was one of those dreaded parolees that the *New York Post* had ranted about, coming to Zuccotti after doing two years for a crime he declined to speak of other than to say that he had taken the rap for someone else. But he was not some thug; he was a Gentleman, and the act of becoming a Gentleman had changed his life.

"I came down here because I just finished doing my time," he told me. "It took me about two weeks to be productive. I had to see people's movements. I had to see if they was feeling the same way I was feeling. And I seen it. I felt the love and I gave it back. I gave it *all* back. And I'm *still* willing to give some more. Before, I wasn't willing to give no type of love to *nobody*. Since I've been here, I've opened my mind. I'm not always *mad*. I participated in things I would never participate with or for. I surprised myself a *hell* of a lot. I'm just happy that I'm not a person who's always in a shell. It broke

second night after the cops had come and cleared away the protestors. With 25 trucks lined up, sanitation men had hauled away tents, sleeping bags, drums, guitars, books, cigarettes, Chuck Taylors, cooking pots, cash boxes, "Debt Is Slavery" signs, laptops, medical equipment and bicycle generators. At dawn, cleaners spray-washed the concrete and marble until Zuccotti looked like it had before the Occupation—a drab rectangle of stone, devoid of folk. A court order let the protestors back into the park, but they were not allowed to bring tents or any other tools of Occupation. About 50 protestors stood around in the rain being watched by as many cops. The rest of the Occupation

that whole eggshell—it had to crack. I'm going to be a part of this shit until this shit is *done*."

Someone came with a bag full of books and tried to set up a little library. It was nothing like the 2,000-volume repository that had been there two days before, just a sad little row of about 15 books laid on a bench in the rain. When he was done, the cops got on their walkie-talkies, and soon one of them rolled a garbage bin over and started throwing the wet books into it. The Occupy folks lit up.

"Mic check!"

"Fuckin' Nazis!"

"Shame on you!"

It was a drag. I know that Occupy Wall Street is not going to change the course of American economic policy—that ship has already sunk—but if it means that there will be a few more Gentlemen walking the Earth, then I'm all for it, because this world is far too rude.

After saying goodnight to Hy-dro and Tigger, I hailed a cab home. We drove past City Hall, the fortress of Brother-



Leader Bloomberg, Lion of Africa (Ozymandias, King of Kings), made a right on Worth Street, and then I was in Chinatown again.

As we drove up the Bowery past Confucius Square, I saw the modest statue of the man for whom it was named, shining in the rain, his mustachioed face lit yellow by the sodium-bulb streetlamps. I was glad to see him, for this was a night that demanded ancient wisdom, and I remembered a warning of his that I received in a fortune cookie once—one that, given the context of struggle and revolution, still worked for me:

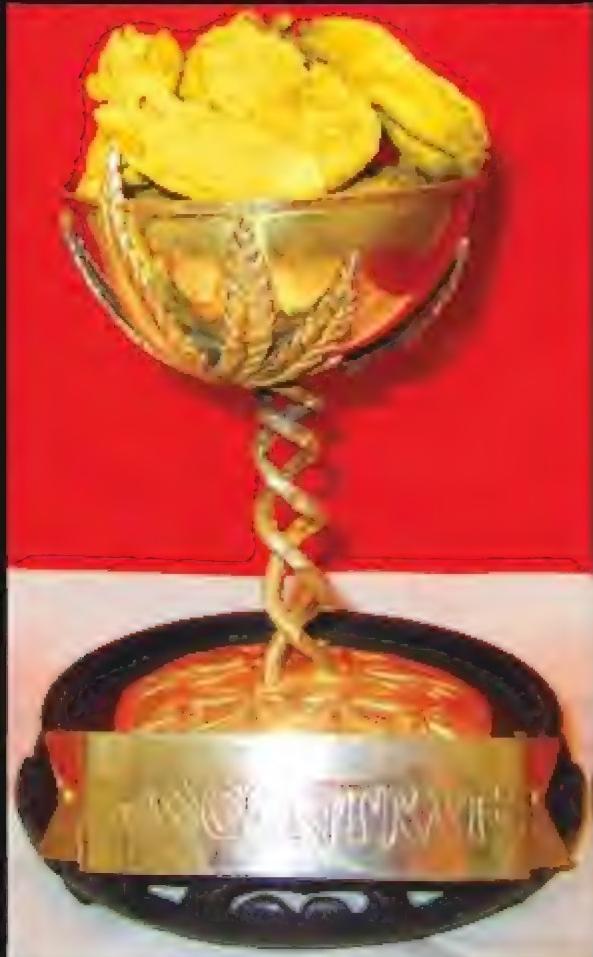
Never give a sword to a man who can't dance. *

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Build Your Own Cloner

Step-by-step instructions for constructing your very own aeroponic cloner and well-rooted cuttings at home. *Story & photos by Stinkbud*



This rendered homemade cloning unit is capable of producing 34 healthy rooted cuttings in just a few days.

What Are Clones?

Clones—or, as some like to call them, cuttings—are genetically exact copies of the parent plant. Over millions of years, plants have evolved different ways to reproduce. The most common way is sexually (through seeds), but plants can also spread through the root system or through vines (like ivy). Some plants have the ability to produce new roots from a broken-off stem if the conditions are perfect. This is the concept behind the aeroponic cloner: We can create the perfect environment for plants by misting their cut-off stems with water or, better yet, a mild nutrient solution. With clones, we can keep an exact copy of a mother plant going forever.

So what are the real advantages of clones over seeds? Well, the first one is that you already know the sex of the



plant, so you don't have to waste time growing it for two months only to find out that it's a male. Nowadays, many people are trying to keep their plant counts low, but the police look at a male plant the same as a female. So not only is a male plant taking up space that a female could be using, but you are also taking on extra risks with no future benefits.

Keep hunting down clones until you find the right strain, then be sure to “spread the love.” The only way you can make sure your prized strain will survive is to give it away: If, for some reason, you lose everything to pests, you can always get back up and running again by getting your original strains back. Sharing also promotes trading, so help your friends out when they need it—because you never know when you might need the favor returned someday.

Getting Started With Clones

If you know a grower, ask them if you can take some cuttings. If you can't find good clones, you'll have to start from seed and develop your own mother plant. After your seedlings have grown out to about 6 to 8 inches tall and with more than three sets of leaves, you'll need to take clones of them and flower the clones to determine their sex. Keep the seedlings in their vegetative stage and let the clones root and tell you what you need to know about the moms.

The first thing you want to do is get your materials ready. Buy a brand-new single-edge razor blade to do the cutting. Next, fill a bowl with cold water. Select a

lower branch on one of your vegetative plants (it's way better to use a cutting taken from the lower branches than from the top, since the lower branches contain more of the hormones that it takes to start roots). Use the razor blade to take a 2- to 4-inch cutting, but don't get too hung up on getting it exact (remember, plants don't use rulers). Put the cutting into the bowl of water and keep repeating these steps. Take twice as many clones as you think you'll need, since some clones will root faster than others (even cuttings from the same plant can root at different times). If you end up with more cuttings than you need, give them away to other providers or just trash them.

Aeroponic Cloner II by StinkBud, Vers 2.1

PARTS LIST:

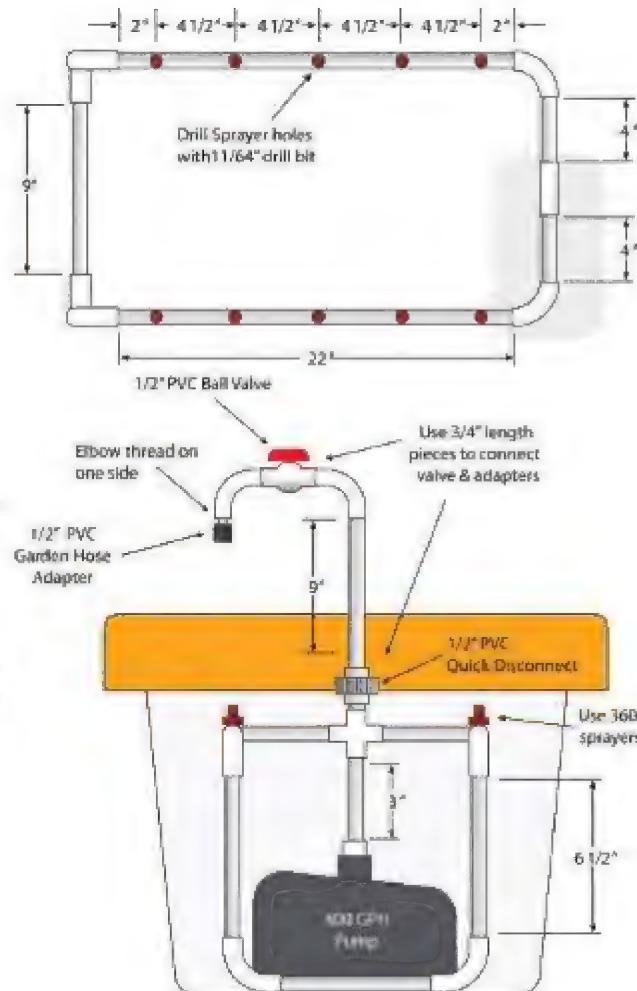
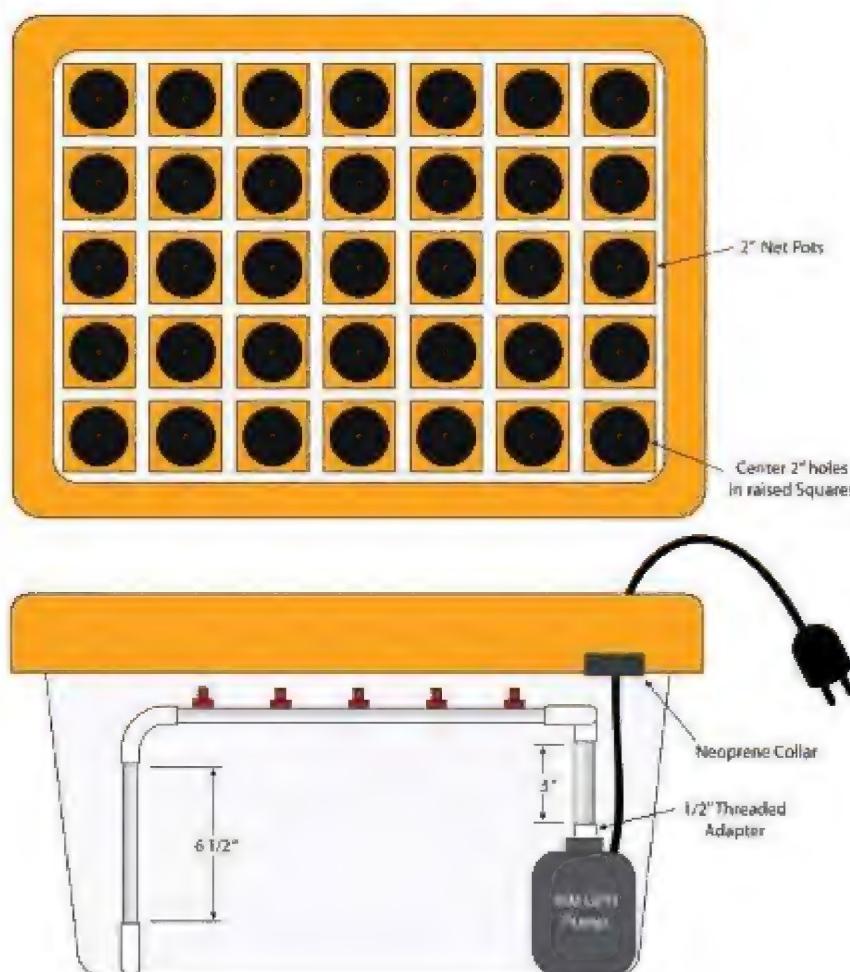
- 1 - 400 GPH Pump
- 1 - 1/2" 4-Way Cross
- 8 - 1/2" Elbows
- 1 - 10' length 1/2" PVC Pipe
- 1 - 27-Gal. Strongbox Container
- 35 - 2" Net PoCollars
- 10 - EZ-Clone Sprayers
- 1/2" PVC Threaded Adapter
- 1/2" PVC Quick Disconnect

TOOLS LIST:

- Electric Drill
- 11/64" Drill Bit
- 2" Hole Saw
- PVC Pipe Primer & Glue
- PVC Pipe Cutter
- X-acto Knife
- Tape Measure
- Pliers

PVC PIPE LENGTHS:

- 2 - 6 1/2" lengths
- 2 - 2 1/2" lengths
- 2 - 4" lengths
- 1 - 3" length
- 2 - 9" lengths
- 3 - 3/4" lengths

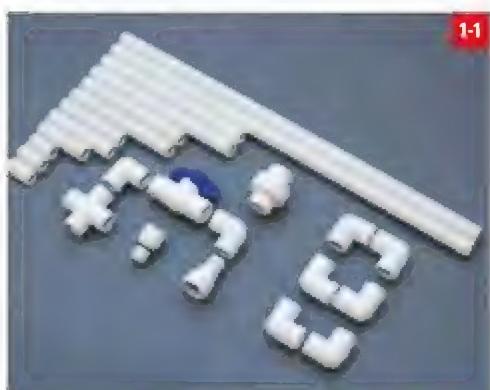


After you have all the cuttings, it's time to put them into the aero-cloner (see the instructions for building one below). Place the cuttings in foam sleeves and then into the 2-inch net pots. No spraying or dipping is needed; just stick the net pots into the cloner and you're done. Set your timer for one minute on and four minutes off. If your room is cold, go ahead and run the pump 24/7; this will help keep the water warm and promote rapid root growth.

Within a week or two, your clones will develop a nice root system. After your cuttings pop roots, it's time to start feeding them stronger nutrients and let them grow big. This is called the vegetative stage. You will also learn how to crop and train the plants during this stage of development.

And that's all there is to it. Just follow my instructions on the next few pages and, before long, you'll be able to help others in need. That's where the true joy of the StinkBud system comes in. Being a Stinkbuddy is about more than just growing medicine for yourself. Always remember the StinkBud motto—"Spread the Love"—and be sure to visit us online at stinkbuddies.com.

StinkBud Cloner II Assembly Instructions



Step 1: Cutting the 1/2" PVC Pipe

- 1) You will need:
- Two 2½" lengths
- Two 4" lengths
- Three 9" lengths
- One 3" length
- Two 4" lengths
- Three ¾" lengths



Step 2: Preassemble Your Sprayer Frame

- 1) Start at the pump and connect a 3" piece to the ½" pump adapter.
- 2) Add a four-way cross to the 3" piece.



- 3) Add the 4" pieces to each side of the cross.
- 4) Add elbows to each 4" piece.
- 5) Attach a ¾" piece to the top of the cross.
- 6) Add a Quick Disconnect to the top of the four-way cross and insert a 9" piece into that.
- 7) Add the long 2½" pieces to each elbow.
- 8) Attach another set of elbows to the long PVC pieces. Make sure these are facing down.
- 9) Add the end 6½" legs to each elbow and attach elbows to the end of these pieces.
- 10) Now add the final 9" piece between the elbows.
- 11) Add an elbow, ¾" piece, valve and ¾" piece—in that order.
- 12) Add the last elbow with threads on one side. Screw the garden-hose adapter into the threads.





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Step 3: Drill the Sprayer Holes

- 1) Measure and put a mark 2" from the end of the 2½" piece
- 2) Mark off every 4½".
- 3) Use an 11/64" drill bit to drill the holes.



Step 4: The Cloner Lid

- 1) Measure out 35 holes in the center of each raised square.
- 2) Use the 2" hole saw to cut the holes.
- 3) Use a sharp knife to clean up the holes.
- 4) Paint the lid with two coats of gray primer. Finish with two coats of white plastic paint.



Step 5: Final Assembly

- 1) Place the pump and sprayer unit into the container and make sure everything fits well.
- 2) Take the sprayer unit apart and reassemble it using PVC glue.
- 3) Start at the pump and build out from there. (Be careful, because the glue dries fast!) Do only one part at a time until the unit is completely assembled.
- 4) Screw in the sprayers. (You may need to use a pair of pliers to get them in.)
- 5) Run the cord through the lid and neoprene collar. Don't put the lid on yet.



Step 6: Setup and Conclusion

- 1) Add enough water to cover the pump, but don't fill it more than halfway—we don't want the roots to hang in the water.
- 2) Add 150 ml of Clonex solution to the water (optional) and adjust the pH to 5.8.
- 3) Set your cycle timer to one minute on and four minutes off.
- 4) Put the lid on the container.
- 5) Fill the cloner with your favorite strains. Don't spray the cuttings.
- 6) Enjoy your new cloner! You should see roots within a week.
- 7) Don't forget to "spread the love."



FAQs

I just took cuttings for the very first time and put them in my new cloner. I've been lifting the lid and looking at them every five minutes and I don't see any roots yet. It's been three hours now and I'm getting worried. What's wrong with my cloner? Why doesn't it work?

Did you ever hear the saying "A watched pot never boils"? The same is true for marijuana: A watched pot never roots. It usually takes at least a week for the roots to start showing. First, you'll notice little white dots forming on the stem. Within a few more days, you'll have a small root-ball growing. Be patient, especially since some strains (such as OG Kush) can take as long as a month to root.



I received some clones that were already in starter plugs. What should I do?
Just leave the cuttings in their plugs.

Did you ever hear the saying "A watched pot never boils"? The same is true for marijuana: A watched pot never roots.

Stick each plug into a net pot and put a collar on. You may also want to put a stocking or pump bag on the pump to catch any smaller pieces of the plug that break off.

Can I start from seeds using this system?
Yes. Basically, you start the seeds in a paper towel as usual. After the seeds pop, put the baby plant in a Rapid

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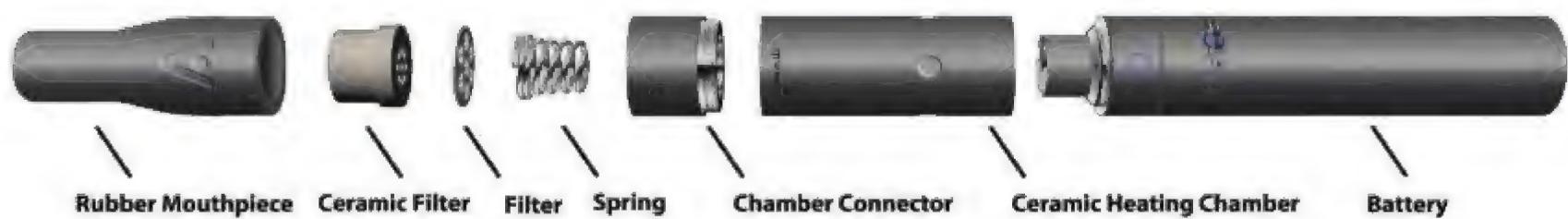
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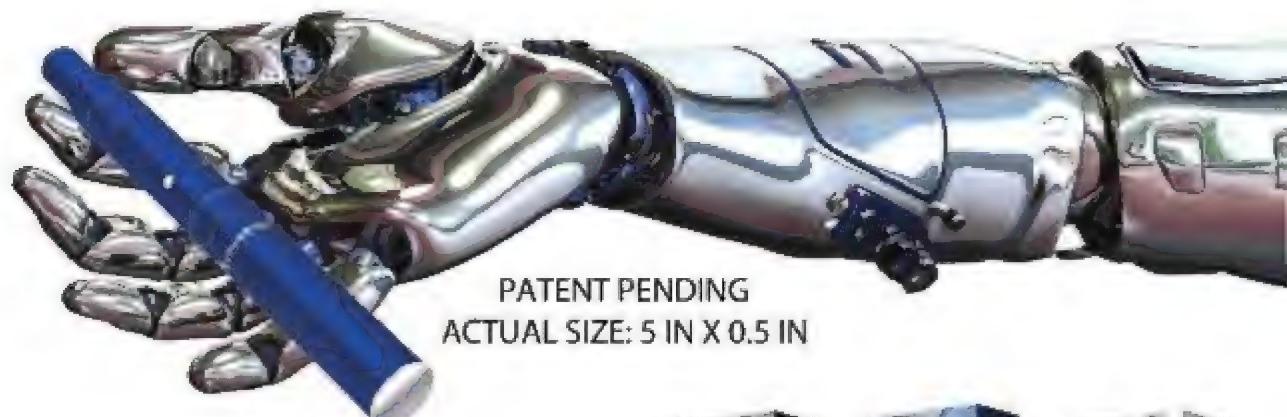
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Rooter plug. Within a few days, you'll see a taproot coming out the bottom. Very carefully break open the plug and extract the seedling. Place the seedling in a neoprene collar and then into the net pot. Put the seedling right to veg (i.e., skip the cloner).

What if I want to germinate seeds and then go the soil route?

Put the seeds into dirt and grow them until they're big enough to take cuttings from. Label all the plants and put the dirt plants in your flower room. Within 10 days, you'll know which ones are male and which are female. Throw away all the male plants/clones and continue to flower out the females. You only need to do this until you have the strains you want.

How many nodes should I leave on each cutting?

Leaving at least three nodes is best. Some people like to take large cuttings with lots of nodes. I find that larger cuttings take longer to root. Smaller (younger) cuttings taken from the bottom of the plant don't transpire as much water and tend to root faster.



How often should I spray my cuttings with water?

You shouldn't have to spray your cuttings. If your cuttings are wilting, try running your pump 24/7 for a few days and see if that helps. Check your room temperature and make sure it stays under 78°F. If your cuttings are still wilting, then check your water. If there's

a high mineral content, you may need to run a reverse-osmosis (RO) machine to filter out all the impurities.

For some reason, my clones are dying—the stems are getting soft and mushy around the collar area. Why?

This is known as damping-off disease. If it strikes your plants, you should scrape off the rotten parts with a knife, then put a thin coat of baking soda around the wound to keep it dry. It will take about a week to fully heal. If it's totally rotten, then you should just clip the plant off above the wound and put it back in the cloner to root again. I've saved a couple of plants this way.

What does a plastic dome do, and do I need one for my cloner?

Clear plastic domes are sold to help increase humidity and keep the clones from drying out. As long as your room is cool and your lights aren't too close, you should have no need for a dome. In fact, if you do use a dome, the plants will start to wilt as soon as you take them out, because they won't be accustomed to the normal dry air. ☀

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The image features a large, bold title "HIGH TIMES RECORDS" in white, outlined letters. The "T" in "HIGH" and the "R" in "RECORDS" overlap. Below the title is a white horizontal bar containing three green cannabis leaves. The background is a close-up photograph of several large, ripe marijuana buds.

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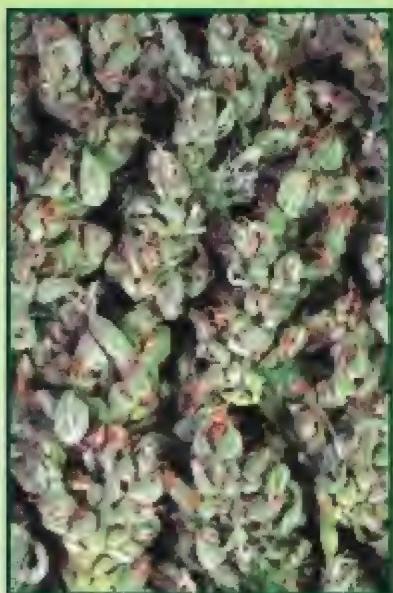
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by BOBBY BLACK

MICHAEL KRAWITZ

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW

Some people choose to be activists; others become activists out of necessity. As a young man, Michael Krawitz never imagined he'd someday be a medical marijuana activist. He joined the Air Force in 1981 (while still in high school) and served honorably during the Cold War until being medically discharged in 1986 for severe back injuries. He had to be medevaced to an Air Force facility, where it took 13 surgeries to put him back together. Suddenly, he was thrust into a whole new medical arena that he knew nothing about. He began working as a veterans' advocate, trying to get them treatment for Agent Orange exposure. Over time, he came to learn that fellow vets were using cannabis to alleviate their physical pain and mental trauma, and he eventually became a proponent for medical marijuana. Now, many years later, this disabled veteran and advocate has embraced his role in the national movement: As the executive director of Veterans for Medical Marijuana Access, he not only helps vets navigate the Veterans Affairs system, but also helps the VA understand the average veteran's experience with marijuana. We sat down with Sgt. Krawitz just before the awards show at our 2011 Michigan Medical Cannabis Cup in Detroit for an update on VMMA's progress and his take on the state of medical marijuana in general.

How did you get involved with Veterans for Medical Marijuana Access?

Well, the VMMA started out with Martin Chilcutt, a veteran who was working on the medical marijuana law effort in Michigan. His story eventually got national attention, which got him noticed by the Marijuana Policy Project. They gave him a small grant to help him try to get different veterans' service organizations to sign on to a resolution about cannabis. That's what Marty was working on when I came along. I was fighting a battle against pain contracts [written "agreements" imposed on veterans who are prescribed powerful

painkillers, which state that if they use marijuana, they'll be cut off from their other meds], so our efforts linked up perfectly and we started working together. His efforts turned out to be critical in the work that I was doing, because then I had something I could take to Washington and say, "Here, this is what the VA is saying—do you agree or disagree with it?" Based on that conversation, we were finally able to get the VA on the record with a policy stating that a veteran shouldn't be punished for using medical marijuana. That wasn't happening before...and it's still not happening in a lot of places.

Did you find willing partners in the VA?

In the VA leadership, yes. They've been very dedicated and responsive...they really do care about the vets. But down the chain, you get into these little fiefdoms, the different clinics and facilities, where you have all kinds of politics that seem to unfold.

We have basically two different kinds of caregivers in the VA. First, you have the doctor or nurse that understands or is at least open-minded about how cannabis works; they may not be pro-cannabis, but they're willing to look at the evidence. We don't have any problem with them. Then there are what I would call

"rogue caregivers"—and I don't say *rogue* lightly. These are individuals who have given up their oath, their responsibility to the patient that *their* needs come first. They're the type of physicians who think of themselves more as cops than caregivers—they're more concerned about federal law than about the patient. For those people, the policy didn't change their behavior: They were anti-marijuana then, and they're anti-marijuana now; they'll just pick some other excuse to treat veterans badly for using it. In our country, we're supposed to have individualized care, where the doctor treats you based on *your* medical



conditions—and there's no administrative denial of medicine that fits into that paradigm.

One of the big problems is that there are less and less actual veterans in the VA treating fellow vets. The Pew Research Center data that recently came out showed that the majority of veterans coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan felt that no one back home really understood what they were going through—and that included doctors at the VA hospital. If they're not vets themselves, the doctors don't really understand the different situations these guys experience and may not have a lot of compassion for them.

So we have to figure out a way to go after rogue doctors throughout the country that are anti-marijuana with really hard language, policy and rules. That's only going to come with a change on the federal level. Most of our energy goes to that end now: toward federal rescheduling of marijuana. But with this VA policy spelling out the rules, we finally have a weapon we can use to say, "This is the way it's supposed to be—this is the policy." We've been able to make dramatic, sweeping change throughout the VA system thanks to that.

So there's been a big change?

Well, medical ethics and standards of medical care haven't changed overnight, but the VA certainly has changed the way they treat marijuana. They wouldn't even *talk* about it a few years ago. Having a policy on paper that you can print out and show to your doctors... that's a big step forward. You have to acknowledge and thank them for that.

Have there been any politicians or press organizations that have been supportive?

Yes—behind the scenes, we've been working with a couple of senators that are on the VA oversight committee. But, unfortunately, it hasn't really translated into any vocal support. I can't think of anybody who's willing to go on record saying, "We need to make sure that vets have marijuana access." But that's a given—I'd be amazed that you'd ever find anyone to the contrary. It's the same way in the VA leadership: It's near impossible to get them on the record. When we met them individually, they were very supportive of our issues—that vets should have the same access as anyone else to medical cannabis—but they're afraid to speak out and sign on to any

resolutions. I gave a reporter 75 contacts in the VA system, and he failed to get a single one on the record regarding marijuana.

Are the people you talk to aware of the current research on the endocannabinoid system and marijuana as a treatment for PTSD?

Some are, some aren't. One of these rogue doctors I was talking about was actually part of the CNCR (Center for Neurogenomics and Cognitive Research) and had done research in the VA system on marijuana. And this wasn't some molecular-cannabinoid rat study—this was a study of human veterans with neuropathic pain. They used cannabis cigarettes in the treatment of

The difference between medical and non-medical marijuana seems like just a nuance thing, but it's really very different.



neuropathic pain in a double-blind, gold-standard study, and what they found was that it worked. It was *very* effective—much more effective than the placebo—easily allowing this state-run agency, this cannabis-research group, to make very bold statements about cannabis being effective as a medicine.

Anyway, the reason we started looking at this doctor was that we had a bunch of vets from California come to us reporting that they'd had their pain medicine taken away because they were using legal medical marijuana. All of them said the same thing: As soon as this new pain doctor took over the clinic, they were cut off from their pain medication and treated like drug addicts. In fact, this doctor made them go through addiction counseling and be drug-tested before he finally allowed them to have their pain meds back. It was a very hostile environment for them.

You've got to realize that a lot of psychiatrists and other doctors just look at marijuana as a drug of abuse—they don't want to look at it any other way. They assume that the vets are abusing it...they don't want to take other evidence into consideration. The difference between medical and non-medical marijuana seems like just a nuance thing, but it's really very different: When you're using it medicinally, you use an extraordinary

amount compared to someone that's just using it for recreation, and you don't really feel high. You feel normal—you just don't feel the pain as much.

We tried to get the CNCR to write a letter to the doctor and explain how the cannabis being used by these vets was actually a valid medical use. And they said, "No, we'll send it to the VA hospital." Then, instead of just sending it to the VA hospital, they decided to go ahead and send it up the chain to Washington, DC. Once they connected up to the people in DC—which turns out is exactly the same people that were working on the medical marijuana briefing paper, which later became the policy—it clicked. When they released their first directive, the language they used indicated that not only did they read the studies from the CNCR, [those studies] were formative in them issuing that paper. Without those "hard science" studies, I don't think the VA would've had the political cover to be able to come out with this policy. So, yeah, not only do I think they're responsive to the research, I think it's been integral.

Vets have been using pot as medicine since the Vietnam War, haven't they?

Absolutely. They really liked their marijuana over there in Vietnam. One of the most iconic photos I've seen is one of troops in Vietnam, and they're passing around a joint on the stalk of the M-16 and smoking from the end of the barrel.

I think that's where the term "shotgun" originated.

Yes, and the point I was making there was just that we've come a long way. When I was a kid in the '70s, we didn't know anything about cannabis as medicine—I learned most of what I knew about marijuana from Cheech

Sgt. Krawitz, seen here in his Air Force bomber jacket.



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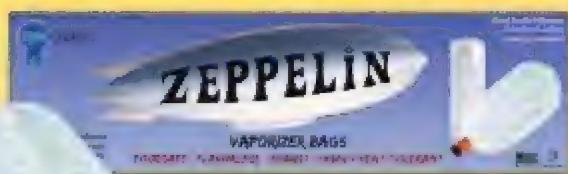
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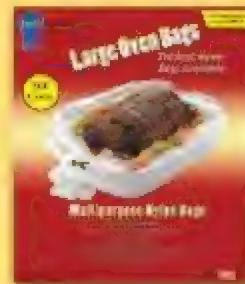
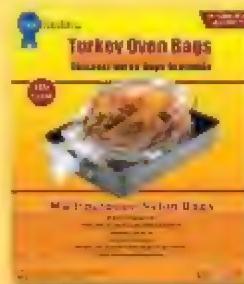
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& Chong. There weren't really many delivery methods available back then other than a pipe, bong or rolling paper. Today, the delivery devices are endless, amazing and getting better all the time. The marijuana movement should be proud that their ingenuity is creating ways to ingest cannabis more safely...it's giving patients access to more targeted relief for their symptoms. The vaporizer is really the perfect delivery device, because it doesn't cause any flame.

How do you feel about the state of medical marijuana in America?

I just read a great book about evolution, and it said something like, "If you block evolution, then you're guaranteed revolution"—I think that was the saying. That's where we're at right now. The medical cannabis movement is ready to evolve in a lot of ways—some good, some not so good. The problem is that you've got two forces at work out there: the forces of the federal government and the pharmaceutical industries, who are working together to produce single-cannabinoid drugs. They don't want people to grow their own. If they succeed in keeping people from growing their own, I'm afraid that we'll lose a lot of the biodiversity that we have in cannabis. A friend and mentor of mine over in Amsterdam, Robert Connell Clarke, talks about a "genetic ceiling." A lot of the plants that existed when I was a kid are gone, and that's the kind of thing we're talking about. Believe it or not, the seeds from Holland that people use most frequently are a threat to biodiversity in and of themselves. It's not the guy who goes to Holland and got some seeds and crossed it with the stuff he got from Mexico—that's good; that's probably going to produce the next super-bud. But if you're constantly working from the same stocks and the same genetics from different varieties, the process isn't really genetically sound.

Sure, it's no different than with humans: You want to have as broad a gene pool as possible.

Absolutely—strength in diversity. We're learning about things now that we would've never even imagined before.



Krawitz speaking at the Patients Out of Time conference in 2010.

For a long time, we've been cultivating cannabis for certain characteristics: the high or the body buzz. What we didn't realize was that we were inadvertently breeding out the CBD, a highly medicinal aspect of the plant. Anti-inflammatory actions, the suspected anti-cancer effects...they have much more to do with

CBD, which is almost nonexistent in a lot of the plants you get from the normal sources. And I don't blame that on the marijuana culture: US drug policy has made it such that marijuana at certain times has had the value of gold, silver or even platinum. And when you've got a plant that expensive, you try to cultivate it to get the biggest bang for your

buck. So in response to drug policy, we've accidentally bred out something that we really needed. Not only that, I think the drug policy has actually fueled the smoking of marijuana.

Like alcohol prohibition caused a surge in drinking, you mean?

Yeah, just like Prohibition. I actually met with the White House staff, who told me straight to my face that the reason they won't reschedule marijuana—why they have to have this big front against it—is because God forbid they look like they're encouraging people to smoke. And the great irony is that the *policy itself* is encouraging people to smoke. If you have several grams of cannabis that you can either make into one brownie or several days' supply of joints, what are you going to do? You're not going to go for one morning's buzz—you're going to go for the rest of the week's buzz. Again, smoking is the best bang for the buck.

The way I see it, CBD strains are a sign that we're breaking free of the government, starting to learn and think on our own. I'm presenting an award for Best CBD Strain this evening, and I'm proud of that...I'm proud of the cannabis community for being forward-thinking about this stuff. HIGH TIMES is giving an award for cannabis with high CBD—that's in recognition of science, of the patients' needs and feedback. That's not just hype or about getting high; that's about learning from the past and from the plant. That's evolution, and that's pretty cool. *

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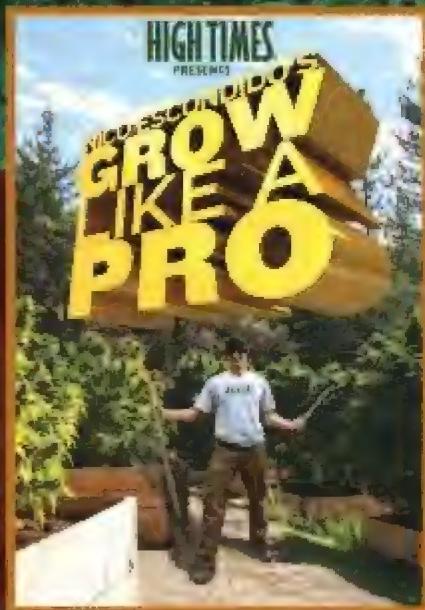
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SUBJECT: Starting Seeds

FROM: Jonny J.

I just wanted to say that I am so tired of being ripped off and not getting the right stuff. The only way to get what you're looking for is to grow it yourself, or to be in a medical marijuana state where you can just go to the store and get what you want. As for my grow question: Can you just put seeds in a cup and water them (under lighting, of course) to get them started? It seems like that would be enough. I'm sure I'll have more questions for you in the future, so please let me know.

Also, my wife and I plan on attending the HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup this year, so any information would be great on both topics: growing and cool trips with lots of marijuana. I am very interested in becoming very good at this, and I plan on being on your cover one day with one of my newly created strains. In the meantime, I am working with the money I have (not much, but I'm using what I have to make do). My wife and I are recreational smokers who also use it for self-medicating; we're both bipolar and have found that it really does calm our nerves. We look forward to the day when marijuana is legal for everyone and not just something that we have to tiptoe around to get and use. Thank you for your magazine!



Seedlings need sufficient light as soon as they sprout from their medium.

Dear Jonny,

Thanks for the kind words. You're right about growing your own—it's truly the only way to know what you're getting and avoid being scammed. Starting seeds is easy, and it's done just as you describe: simply plant your seeds into pre-moistened soil in a cup and place them under a grow light. As soon as you see the seedling poking through the top of the soil, lower your light to the preferred distance for your wattage (usually about 1 to 2 feet for HID lights and

2 to 5 inches for fluorescent lighting).

Good luck on your quest, and you should definitely come to the Cannabis Cup: It's a fun time and a great way to learn much more about the science of cannabis cultivation, as well as try a bunch of different varieties to determine what works best for your ailment. Not to mention that you get to hang out with some of the luminaries and legends of the pot world (I like to call it "marijuana fantasy camp"). Hope to see you—and smoke one with you—there!

Danko Tip: Measure the pH of the water that flows out of the bottom of your plant containers to determine whether your soil is within the preferred range (5.8-6.5).



SUBJECT: **Time Frame**
FROM: **Lady Shanna**

How long does it take for buds to be ready to smoke?

Dear Lady Shanna,
I assume you're asking about the amount of time it takes from planting a seed to harvesting the plant. In that case, the typical range is about three to four months. At first, the plant is a seedling in its vegetative stage of growth, and once it builds up leaves and branches, it's ready for the flowering stage. The vegetative stage is typically about a month, while the flowering stage takes about two months. Indoors, however, you can

manipulate the length of these periods by using a timer to control how much light the plants receive. You also need to add on at least a few weeks after harvest for your buds to dry out and cure properly.

SUBJECT: **Hot, Airy Buds**
FROM: **Chronic Dave**

I've had many conversations with growers and have been unable to get a good answer regarding the tightness of buds after curing. The temperatures often reach more than 100°F in central California for several months. My strains are auto-flowering and are grown outdoors (though many friends have had the same problem with non-autos as well). The nutes are all

by the book for veg and flowering. The colas are very airy and loose, but the quality is great. Is this due to the heat, the outdoor conditions, the specific strains or some all-of-the-above combination? I also know that this can be a problem indoors as well. Your help would be greatly appreciated. By the way, HT is awesome!

Dear Chronic Dave,
The high levels of heat for prolonged periods of time that you describe are mostly to blame for the "airiness" of your buds. Hot temperatures cause the plant to slow and even cease functioning as a conduit for photosynthesis and instead shift into self-preservation mode. Indoors, this means using an appropriately sized air conditioner for the space in order to cool it down to at least below 80°F. Cooling plants outdoors is a tougher order, but keeping them out of the intense midday sun from 10 a.m. 'til 2 p.m. can help, and growing strains acclimated to hot areas (such as equatorial varieties) is also a smart move.

SUBJECT: **Heirloom Pot**
FROM: **Rico C.**

I have a question you may be able to answer. I'm seeking reputable sources for landrace genetics to use in medical-breeding programs here in Colorado. Are there any seed banks you could suggest that specialize in landrace seed stock?

Dear Rico,
A few companies do come to mind, and you can always consult our HIGH TIMES Seed Bank Hall of Fame for a list of 30 reputable companies with a long record of integrity. For landrace genetics, I thought of Green House Seeds immediately, since their *Strain Hunters* DVD series focuses on Arjan and Franco tracking down heirloom seed stock from the original locations.

I also remember Reeferman Seeds having a specialty in many hard-to-find breeding giants from old-school Colombian stock as well as African and highland Thai and Vietnamese *sativas*. I'm happy to report that I recently heard from Reef, who told me that choice beans from his private reserve will be available once again in the near future.

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Danko Tip: Rotate plants a quarter-turn per day to ensure proper light penetration throughout the canopy when you're growing indoors or outside in containers.

classic landraces as they can get their hands on—some right in your own backyard. Good luck!

SUBJECT: Cloning

FROM: Root Deficient

My clones never seem to root right—and even when they do, the leaves are sickly and the plants barely have any green left on them. I've found that this is no way to start a crop, and my yields have been horrific compared to when I grew from seed. My trays sit under fluorescent lights and the temps are around 65°F, with humidity around 20%.

Dear Root,

Your temperature and humidity are both too low to successfully produce healthy clones. You need to raise the temperature to closer to 80°F and the humidity to 50% to 60%. A simple electrical heating mat under your cloning tray would do wonders to raise both to optimum levels. You will find that under the proper conditions, your clones will stay green and healthy and root quickly, providing you with strong plants with a fighting chance to thrive as they get older.

SUBJECT: Female Trouble

FROM: Fat Guy in a Little Coat

I bought some seeds a while back called Mosca Cindy-99 BX-1. It's a great plant that finishes in seven weeks. My question: They are regular seeds, but so far all have been female. I have five left, and I want to plant all five in hopes of getting a male or two along with a couple of females. If this happens, will I be diluting the gene pool by not being able to select the strongest of both? My growroom is tight at best; I have a really tiny box for mothers and clones. (Amazing what a little stoner ingenuity can do for you!)

I'd love to make more of these seeds, not to sell but for personal use, because I love the stone that I get from this plant.

Dear Fat Guy,

If you wish to keep the plant around, your best bet isn't a breeding project, but rather to turn a female seedling into a mother plant by keeping her in the vegetative stage and taking clones when you want to grow out that variety. First, plant the seeds and let them grow out



for a few weeks. Next, take a cutting from each plant and root and flower the clone. Use the flowered clones to determine which plant is female, then discard the male clones and their corresponding plants. The female seedlings become your mother plants, capable of producing hundreds or even thousands of healthy duplicate copies of themselves for you to grow out to your heart's delight.

SUBJECT: Sky Patrol

FROM: Smoke

I'm a 65-year-old first-time grower. This year I had five plants that did well in my backyard. My concern is this: From the air, how can plants be detected by a plane or helicopter?

Dear Smoke,

Your level of fear should depend on your location, as some law enforcement jurisdictions spend much more time doing flyovers than others. Suffice it to say that if there's a ton of marijuana-growing activity in your region, there will be some surveillance as well.

Having said that, it would be pretty tough to spot five plants, and most aerial surveillance is typically looking for larger, more blatant plots. You can always use opaque greenhouse material that allows light to pass through to create a shelter for your plants (and a barrier for prying eyes from above), or you can even purchase a small greenhouse for the yard.

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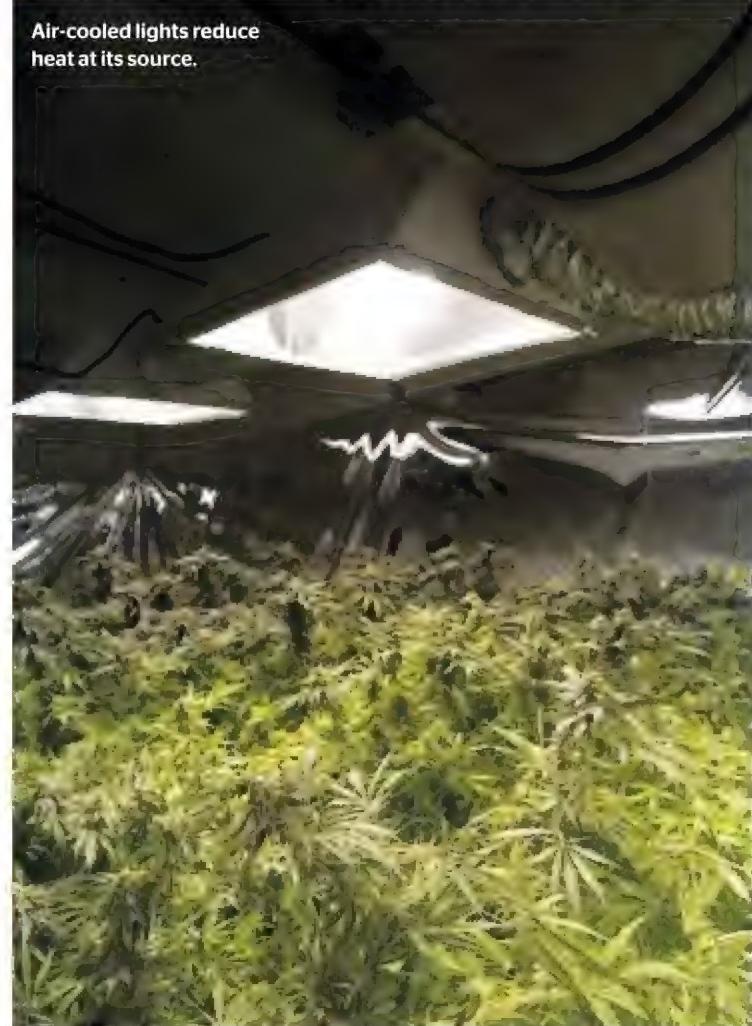
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SUBJECT: Cold World

FROM: Ira

I have a few questions. How important is ventilation in a growroom? If I make sure there's CO₂ in the room via a generator, is that good enough? The reason I ask is because I would like to use LEDs in my growroom, and if I constantly bring in outside air, I fear my rooms will get too cold. (I live in a climate where it gets below 30°F on a regular basis.) And my last question: Do you think the LEDs (Extreme Flower brand) are a good investment, given that they claim their 360-watt light equals the output of a 600-watt high-intensity discharge (HID) light?

Dear Ira,

Take LED conversion claims with a grain of salt. LED (light-emitting diode) technology is steadily improving in quality and affordability, but I think you could solve your problem by investing in HID lighting such as MH (metal halide) or HPS (high-pressure sodium) lamps.

These lighting systems produce heat that you can harness to keep your room from getting too chilly during "nighttime" hours. You should also invest in a portable heater that can warm your room when the lights are turned off. *

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Dr. Mitch,
I'm quitting cigarettes and wonder if the herb is going to help or hurt?

Duke Newton

Hi Duke,
Good for you! Some folks say that they substitute marijuana for tobacco, while others worry that this will put their cannabis use over the top. Still others are concerned that they'll lose their resolve to abstain from nicotine if THC is in their system. But there's really nothing to worry about from the plant: In a study of heavy drinkers in a program for quitting tobacco, marijuana use did not lead to a smoking relapse. Marijuana smokers also cut down their drinking more than those who didn't use the herb. In an interesting twist, those who smoked marijuana at least weekly cut down their use after quitting smoking cigarettes, too.

Dr. Mitch,
Does cannabis really make you sleepy, or are you just tired because it's late at night after a party?

T. Toes

Hi T.,
No, cannabis really does make you sleepy! THC sedates just about every animal that has received it in the lab, and the cannabidiol (CBD) present in many strains also increases sleep time. Even anandamide, the body's natural cannabinoid, makes mice drowsy. However, drugs that block the cannabinoid receptor CB1 have the effect of decreasing sleep time.



Marijuana use does not lead to a smoking relapse. Marijuana smokers also cut down their drinking more than those who didn't use the herb.

Dr. Mitch,
Have changes in the laws for herbal incense helped get it off the streets?

Johnny D.

Hi Johnny,
Not really. Synthetic cannabinoid agonists like those found in herbal incense have been illegal in the UK since December 2009. Researchers there bought 20 products and found illegal synthetic cannabinoids in 17 of them. They also found two new synthetic cannabinoids that weren't even mentioned in the law. We have no idea what these chemicals do to people, but, obviously, prohibition doesn't work. A legal source of cannabis, with its 5,000-year history of safety, would sure help this situation. *

Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany. He is the author of Understanding Marijuana and The Parents' Guide to Marijuana.

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The Last Free Man in America

Gatewood Galbraith, 1947 2012

GATEWOOD GALBRAITH PASSED away in his sleep at age 64. The last time I spoke to him was at Jack Herer's funeral, and he was in fine form that day, the most charismatic person in the room (as usual). Even though I didn't completely agree with all his politics, I always enjoyed his company immensely whenever our paths crossed.

Gatewood grew up in the '60s, but it seems he was often either a little ahead or a little behind the curve. He desperately wanted to join the Marines and go to Vietnam, but was rejected due to asthma. After discovering that marijuana alleviated many of his symptoms, however, he swiftly transformed into an ardent cannabis enthusiast. In 1969, he hitchhiked from North Carolina to San Francisco to investigate the free-love movement, but after spending 45 minutes in downtown Frisco, he promptly hitchhiked back to North Carolina without meeting a single hippie.

While still a law student, Gatewood devised a plan for marijuana legalization in Kentucky. After passing the bar exam (fourth attempt), he continued to hone this proposal into a workable form of legislation. But when he couldn't get prominent politicians to sponsor a hemp-legalization bill, Gatewood began running for office himself. He was a natural-born politician and made a genuine effort to connect with every single person he met.

After I discovered Jack Herer's manuscript, *The Emperor Wears No Clothes*, I created an activist group called the Freedom Fighters to promote hemp



When he couldn't get prominent politicians to sponsor a hemp-legalization bill, Gatewood began running for office himself.

legalization. In the late 1980s, the Freedom Fighters played a crucial role in bringing an almost dormant pro-marijuana protest movement back to life. Gatewood immediately joined the organization as one of its original members, along with Jack Herer and Chef RA.

When Willie Nelson offered to perform a benefit concert, Gatewood leveraged the event to coincide with the state's Democratic convention. He felt that newspaper coverage of their convention appearance would be enough to boost ticket sales, but most newspapers ignored Gatewood and the concert. At the morning press conference, Willie showed up wearing a baseball cap with native beadwork, while a contingent of Freedom Fighters (including me) showed up in our signature tri-corner hats. "I like your hat," I told Willie immediately after the brief press conference. "I like yours," he replied, and we traded hats on the spot. Gatewood made sure Willie wore that tri-corner for the rest of the day, especially during their joint address to the convention. Gatewood was always a believer in the power of large hats.

In the early days, the Freedom Fighter of the Year was elected by voice vote at the annual council in Ann Arbor during the Hash Bash. Gatewood was nominated every year of the council and always got plenty of voice votes, though he didn't capture the honor until the third try. It just shows what a popular sort of guy he was. It seems strange to think that Jack, Chef RA and now Gatewood are all gone, just as we get close to the promised land they all worked so hard to achieve. *

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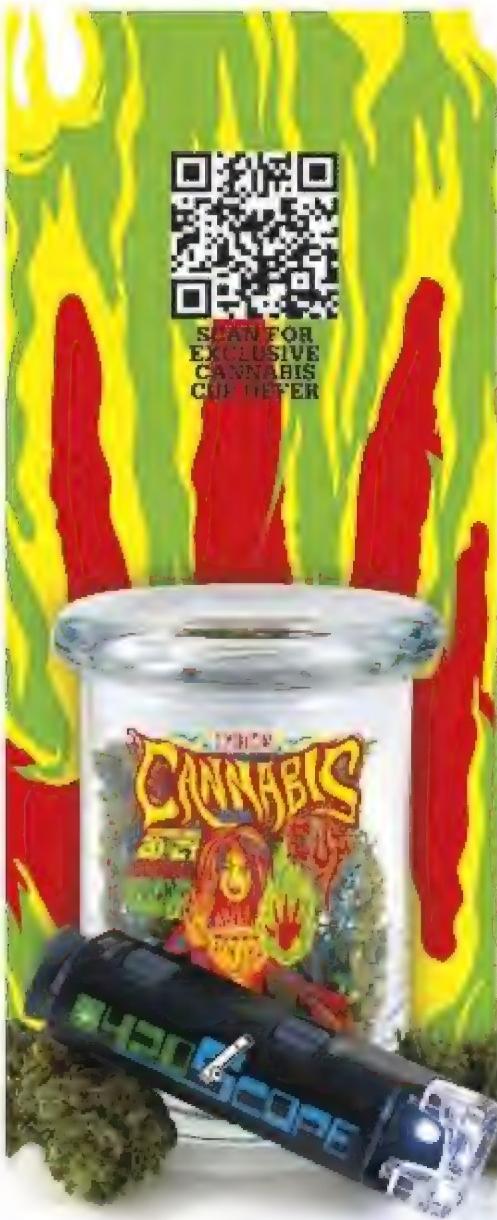
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"We've been in some tough spots before, but that...when you...well, for a minute there, I really thought it was lights out. How exactly did you...? You know what, never mind—I'm content simply basking in my own amazement."

"You were pretty impressive yourself, you lunatic."

UGHHH

"My bones are still vibrating, and my nerves are totally shot. Do you, uh...have anything?"

"Are you kidding? I live on painkillers. Here, swallow this...it should take the edge off."

"No, not that...I meant, something more...natural."

PAUSE

"Heh. Seriously? You get high, Boy Scout? Since when?"

"Some detective *you* are. Have you forgotten that I grew up on a farm in the middle of nowhere? I was different, I didn't have many friends...there wasn't all that much to do."

"Well, what about truth, justice and all that nonsense?"

"What about it? I find nothing immoral about ingesting a plant. It's no different to me than any other fruit, herb or flower of the earth. If more of the population partook of its benefits, perhaps you and I wouldn't be quite so busy."

"My amazement continues. Well, since you put it that way...it so happens that I had a few words with a drug dealer a few weeks ago, and I appropriated a portion of his inventory before Gordon and his boys arrived. For testing purposes only, of course."

"Of course."

"I suppose I could fetch it from the evidence locker. It's just over here."

THUNK

"Here we are. No—wait...give that back. *That* bag came from Crane."

"Oh-kay...I feel like this is the hundredth time I'm asking you this, but are

you out of your mind? You know what that stuff would do...why would you keep it in there? Why not just get rid of it?"

"I was saving it for Halloween. Anyway, here we go. Now, how shall we do this?"

"Here, use these."

"You keep a pack of rolling papers in your boot? You're not the slightest bit concerned that they might fall out one day in front of someone and tarnish that rosy reputation of yours?"

"Please! They'd be gone before they hit the ground. I would think you'd have realized by now how fast I am. I raced Barry, remember?"

"Yes—several times, if I recall, and never won."

WHOOSH

"Not bad...a little tight, but not bad. Now where did I put that blowtorch?"

"Nevermind that..."

ZAAAP

"Showoff. Okay, pass that over here."

"This is pretty good."

"It's supposedly the world's finest."

"Does it have a name?"

"Kryptonite."

"You're an insufferable bastard, you know that?"

VROOM

"Damn...the kid's back. Quick—finish that thing."

"Ha...you're not afraid of a psychopathic clown, but you're afraid of your 'youthful ward' finding out that you smoked a joint? That's absurd. He jumps off buildings and beats up men twice his size and age—I'm sure he can handle a little herb."

"I know, I just...we haven't had that talk yet. We've been...busy."

"Alright, well, I should be going anyway. Thanks for what you did back there—and for this. Seems long overdue."

"You're welcome...for both. But let's not make a habit of either."

"Take care, Bruce."

"Goodbye Clark." *



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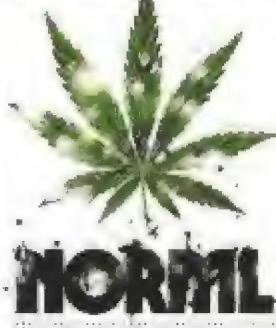
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Beware of Boys with Toys

Prohibitionists are now embracing advanced technology in their war on us.

Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit norml.org

LAW ENFORCEMENT and other government agencies believe that marijuana law reform—which has been sought by the public in ever-growing numbers for more than 40 years—can now be averted via the use of cutting-edge technology. As a result, we are witnessing the development and deployment of taxpayer-funded, high-tech silver bullets to detect personal drug use, sniff out drugs on persons or in commerce, and monitor ground activity from the air and even space.

The federal government has used the immense public support following the 9/11 attacks to create and fund anti-terrorist functions by local and state police that appear to be nothing more than the same congressionally sanctioned domestic drug war pork. Small towns across America are awash in federal dollars earmarked for purchases of military-quality armaments and equipment that are not being used to fight terrorism at all—instead, otherwise peaceful and law-abiding cannabis consumers are being targeted.

Here's just a partial list of the resources now being employed by law enforcement agencies against cannabis users:

Forward Looking Infrared Radar (FLIR), which allows law enforcement to target



Small towns across America are awash in federal dollars earmarked for purchases of military-quality armaments and equipment that are not being used to fight terrorism.

certain houses or vehicles through the use of visual or heat-sensing technology (for example, to spot the heat signature of indoor grow equipment).

Odor detection technology, such as that being provided to the public by law enforcement agencies in the Netherlands, to help determine if a neighbor is cultivating cannabis.

Satellites, allowing law enforcement to monitor outdoor cannabis cultivation.

Global Positioning System (GPS), with the courts increasingly allowing law enforcement to secretly attach GPS tracking devices to cars and even on suspects themselves.

Aerostat balloons, a supposedly impregnable curtain of detection technology that has been deployed since the mid-1990s in the form of a chain of helium blimps strung miles along the entire Southwest border and the length of the Florida Keys in order to deter drug smuggling. And how has that worked out?

Drones, the unmanned, low-flying aircraft increasingly used by international, federal and local law enforcement to detect and observe criminal activity—including looking for indoor and outdoor gardens.

Ion scanners, which are already deployed at many airports and all federal prisons, and are increasingly being used elsewhere to detect if a person is carrying contraband.

Gamma busters, such as the handheld gamma-radiation machines used by Customs agents at US border checkpoints to “zap” a car's spare tire or large packages. Entire tractor-trailer rigs can now be scanned in “gamma tents.”

Keypad and cell phone trackers, which are placed on a suspect's computer keyboard or cell phone to capture all of the information put into the device.

DNA biomarkers, with the federal government funding scientists to map the entire cannabis genome in order to track specific strains for the purpose of investigation, prosecution and sentencing.

What a waste! Perhaps cannabis law reformers should insist instead on a much more effective and decidedly low-tech way to actually track and control cannabis: a paper stamp tax. *

FREEDOM FIGHTER

LIFE FOR POT

A personal encounter with the drug war inspires Beth Curtis.

In the mid-1990s, the impact of the War on Drugs became all too clear to Beth Curtis when her brother received a sentence of two life terms plus 20 years in a DEA reverse sting. Beth's brother was tried and convicted for conspiracy as a first-time offender in a case in which he'd never actually imported or sold marijuana—and in a state in which he'd never even lived or worked. Outraged by her sibling's unjust

treatment, Beth began an online outreach project that would grow into Life for Pot.

“I realized that people really didn't think it was possible to receive life for a marijuana-only offense,” she says. “I needed to document it. I began with federal prisoners who were over the age of 60 and had served at least 10 years of their life sentence for marijuana.”

Beth began reaching out to the incarcerated and collecting their stories. After gathering



by Erik Altieri, NORML communications coordinator

the accounts of several inmates, she launched her website (lifeforpot.com), which seeks to expand the examination of this injustice and bring attention to anyone serving hard time for nonviolent marijuana offenses.

“It grew out of heartbreak and disbelief,” Beth says. “I didn't know that my government could be so destructive. The futility of this war on people and plants should be telegraphed to everyone who believes in fiscal responsibility, civil liberties and justice.”



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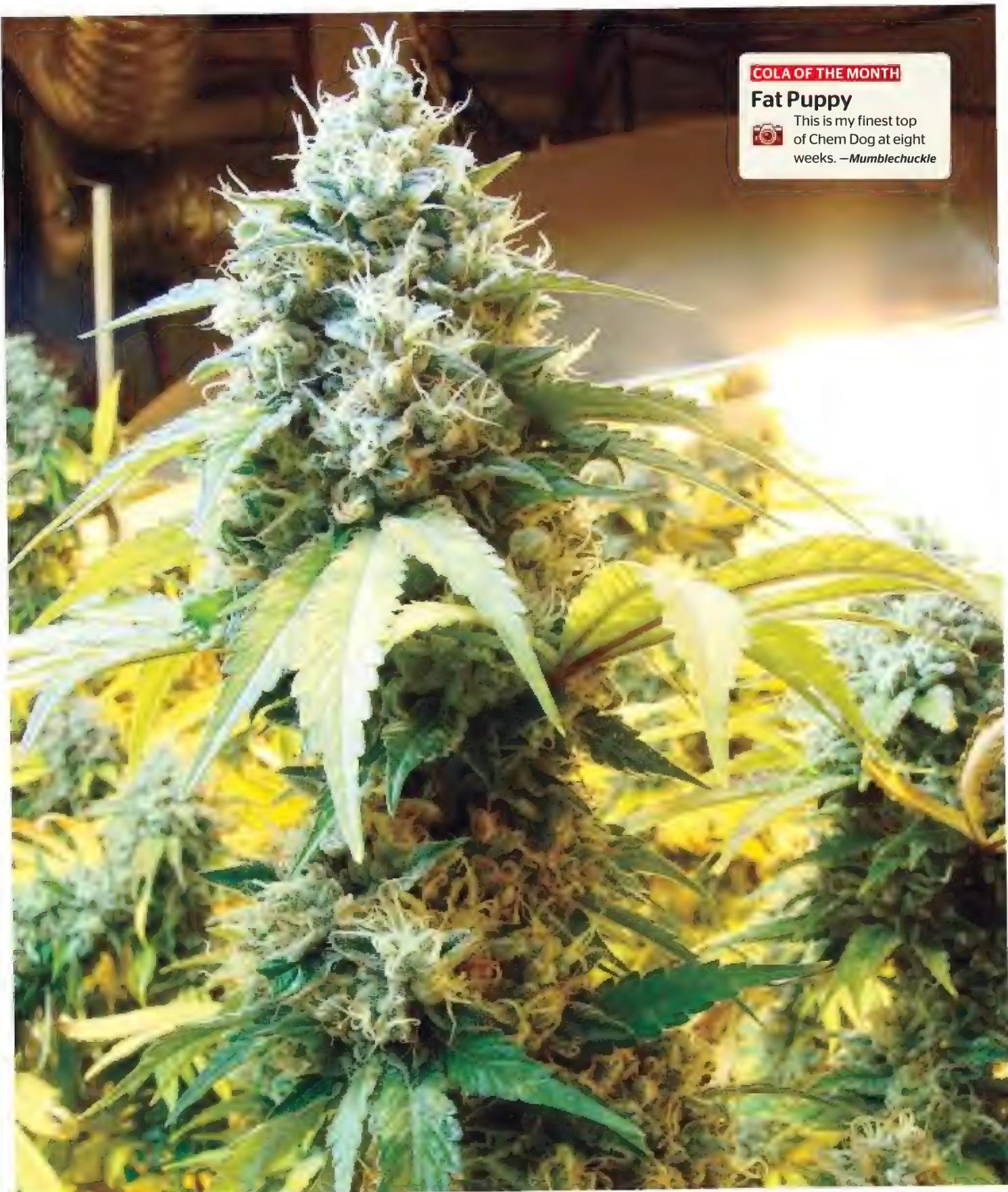




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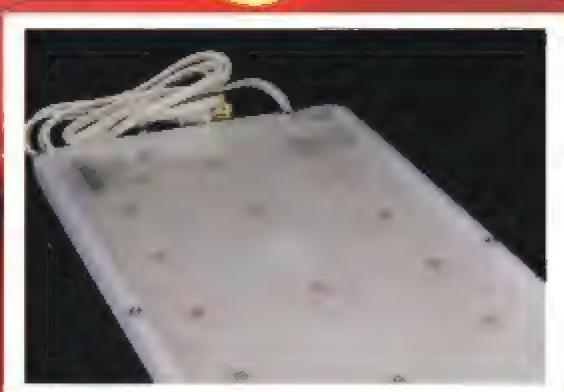
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FLOWER OF THE MONTH**Time After Time**

 I've been a big fan of the magazine for many years and I'd like to contribute some pictures of TGA Seeds' Time Wreck for you and your readers. —TC

**GARDEN OF THE MONTH****Grow Canada**

 Hey guys 'n' gals, I've been growing and reading High Times for years now, but have never once shared pics of my Barney's Farm's LSD crop. Reporting in from the northern flatlands of Saskatchewan, Canada. —Dr. Slobish

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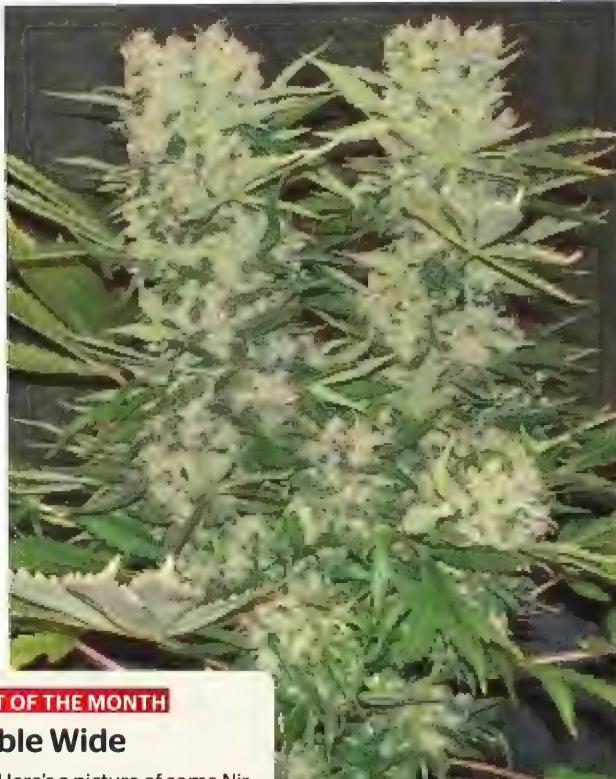
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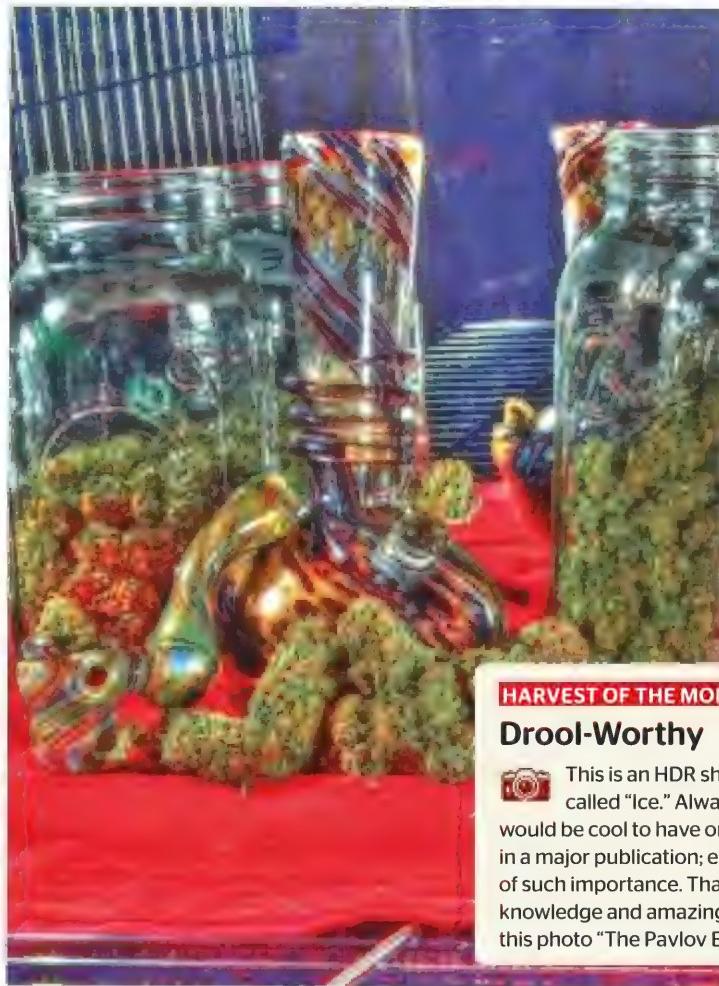
CLOSE-UP OF THE MONTH**Time Out Of Mind**

 Time Wreck from TGA grow outdoors and a great mix of the Train Wreck/Vortex Lemon grown organically. —TC

**PLANT OF THE MONTH****Double Wide**

 Here's a picture of some Nirvana Pure Power that I'm growing. Very nice plant! Hope it makes it into HIGH TIMES! Thanks.

—Mr. Greenjeans

**HARVEST OF THE MONTH****Drool-Worthy**

 This is an HDR shot of a harvest called "Ice." Always thought it would be cool to have one of my pics in a major publication; especially one of such importance. Thanks for the knowledge and amazing images! I call this photo "The Pavlov Effect." —K.P.



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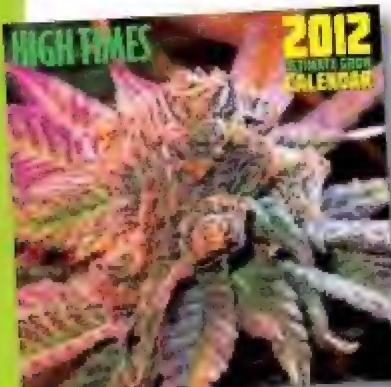
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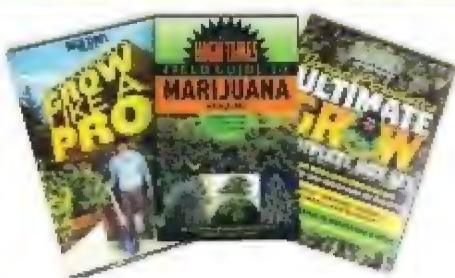
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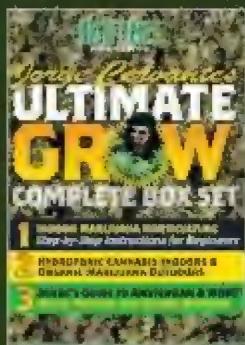
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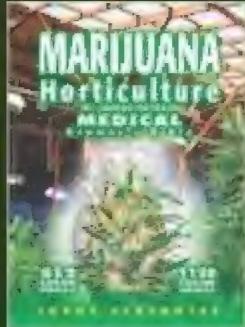
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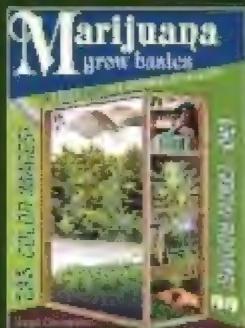
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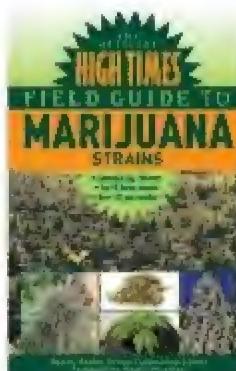
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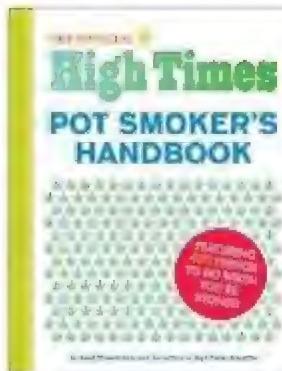
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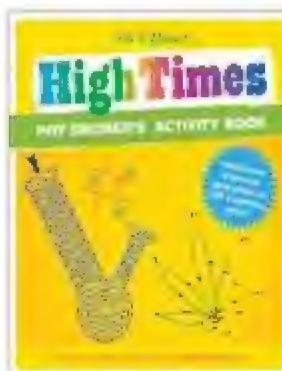
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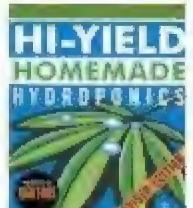
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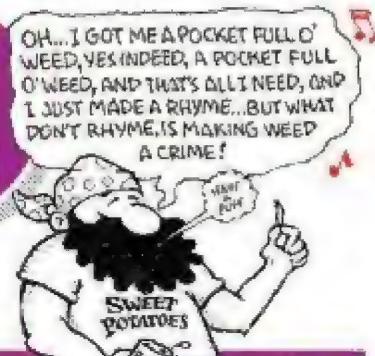
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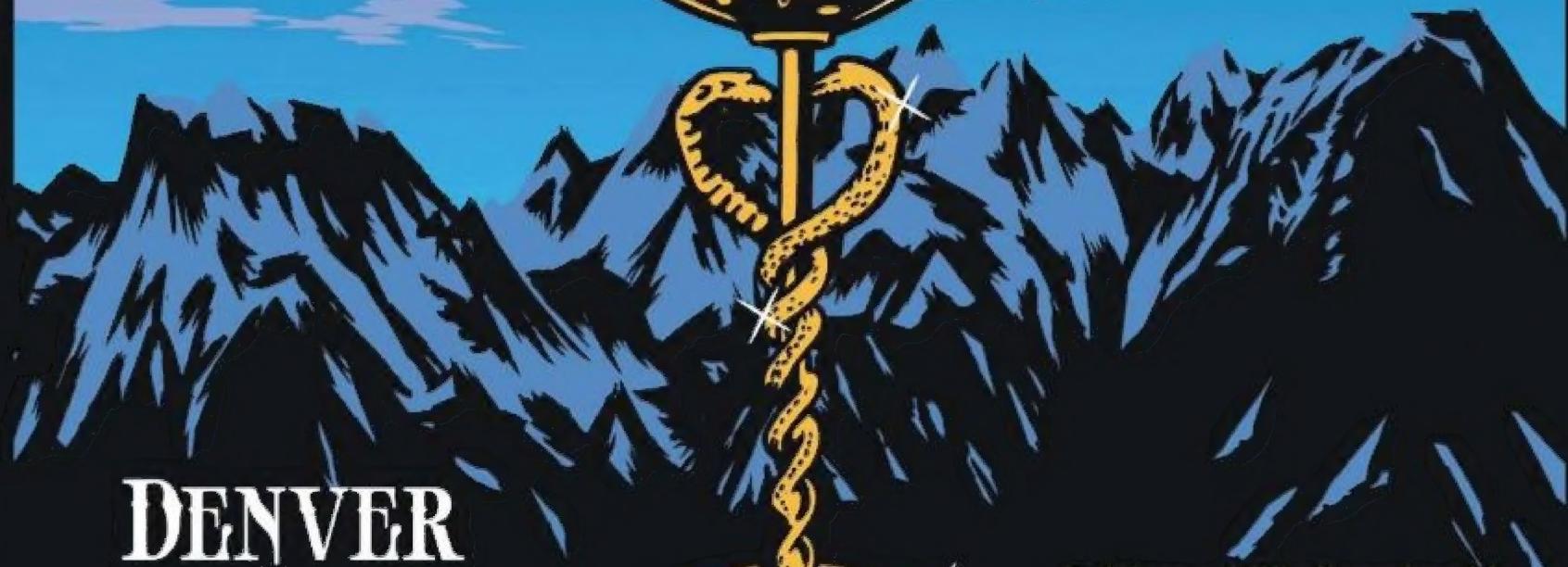
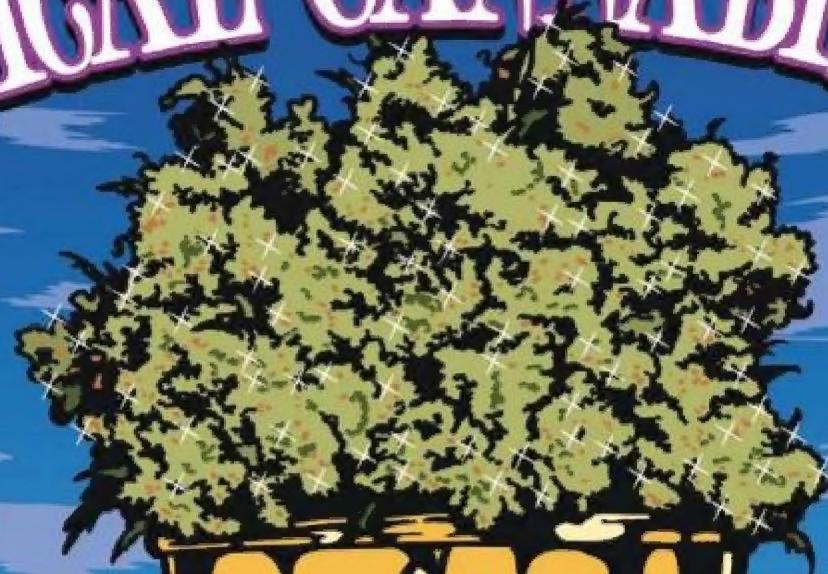
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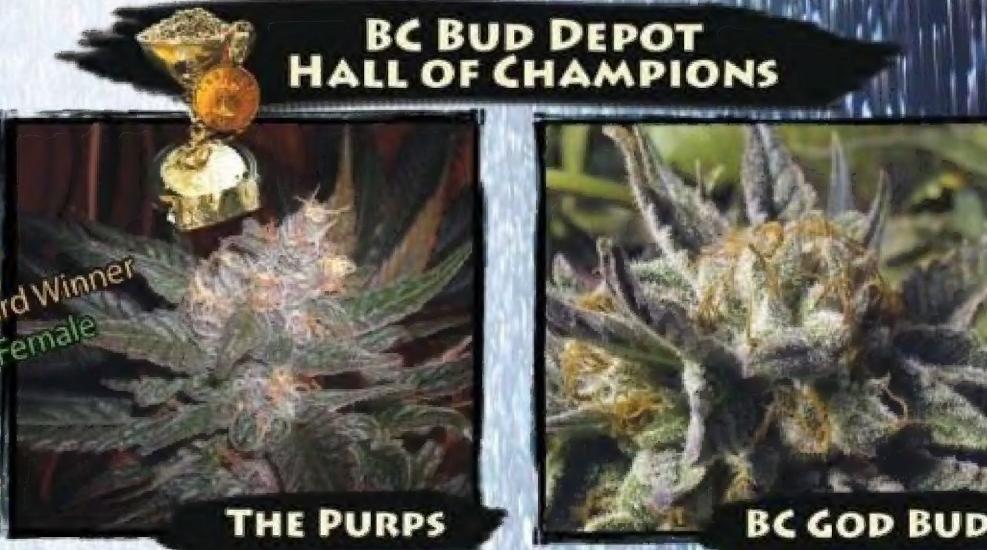


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